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RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE:

COMMUNICATIONS FROM SPECIAL AGENTS

Volume 3

February 20, 1813 - November 5, 1818

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Washington: 1943

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The volume microcopied on this roll has the following backstrip title: "3 / Special Agents / 1813 / J. R. Poinsett / Department / of State." It contains communications to the Department of State from Joel Roberts Poinsett, special agent of the United States to South America, later consul general of the United States at Buenos Aires.

Most of the volume consists of a report by Poinsett, without a title, on political, social, and economic conditions in Peru, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay, transmitted to the Department of State on November 4, 1818. The various sections of the report, which became scattered when the volume was bound, occupy folios 9-19, 38-39, 43-97, 100 1/2 - 168. A second report by Poinsett, on Cuba, written ca. 1823, occupies folios 21-37. His letters in this volume are dated at Santiago, Chile (February 20, 1813, and April 2, 1814), Buenos Aires (June 14 and September 16, 1814), Charleston, South Carolina (May 27, 1816), and Columbia, South Carolina (November 4 and 5, 1818). Other letters of Poinsett, not included in this volume but to be found in other series of records of the Department of State, are listed at the front of the volume.

In referring to this volume, scholars may wish to indicate that it is among the records of the Department of State in The National Archives. The leaves upon which the letters are mounted, and the leaves of the letters themselves, are numbered. Though folios 170-178 of the letters follow folio 97, citation by the folios of the letters, being more specific than citation by the folios of the volume, seems desirable. The following form of citation is therefore suggested: State Department, Special Agents, vol. 3, folio 25.

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735

JOEL R. POINSETT

JUNE 28, 1810

SOUTH AMERICA

CONFERENCE ON THE LIMITATION OF ARMAMENT

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

Poinsett Joel R.

1810 - 1814

See

Vol 1 Buenos Ayres (Now bound in First Volume)
April 2 1814 - Santiago Chile
June 14 " Buenos-Ayres
Sept 16 " " "
May 27 1816 Charleston

July 22 1812 Poinsett to Miller
Am. Consul at Buenos-Ayres

Miscellaneous Letters.
Sept. 29 1815 - Philadelphia
Jan 17 1816 Charleston
Aug 5 " Philadelphia
Aug 10 1817 Charleston
Sept 9 1818 Richmond
Nov 4 " Columbia

Vol 1 South American Mission
(Rodney, Graham and Bland)
May 25 1817 - Charleston
(Poinsett to Department)

List of the official reports of Joel R.Poinsett from his South-American Mission 1811 - 1815, found in the Poinsett collection of the Manuscript division of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, Philadelphia.

(All these reports are bound in vol.1 of the collection).

1811

Jan.11. from Rio de Janeiro:
His arrival in Rio, different rumours regarding the influence of the Junta of Buenos Aires over the rest of South America, the intentions and hopes of the Princess Carlotta The attitude of Great Britain in regard to South America.

Febr.13. from Buenos Aires:
Arrival in B.A. His reception; Rumours regarding the Princess Carlotta, determination of B.A. in case of attack to declare its independence. Arrival of General Elio in Montevideo.

Febr.16. from B.A.:
Repeats his despatch from 13. The revolution in Chile.

Febr.23. from B.A.:
Morenos mission to London; protest against preferred treatment of English commerce, reasons for the delay in the proclamation of independence, predominant influence of Great Britain in B.A. Possibility of a confederation of all Spanish America against the intrigues of Brazil, interest of the U.S. to promote such a confederation. Sees ultimate separation of all S.America from Spain.

March 3. from B.A.:
Gives historical sketch of the revolution in B.A. since May 1810.

March 4. from B.A.:
Blockade of B.A. by General Elio expected, ultimat success of the Junta expected, insurrection in the banda oriental.

March 5. from B.A.:
Transmits note of the Junta, regarding admission of American vessels in B.A.

March 9. from B.A.:
Insurrections in the banda, recommends nomination of Mr.Miller as U.S.Consul.

March 29. from B.A.:
Blockade of B.A. by General Elio, Brazil promises ~~his~~ neutrality, ~~the~~ war against Peru.

April 11. from B.A.:
American commerce in the Plata river unprotected, The revolution of the 6th in B.A. Assembling

1811.

of the Congress in Chile.

April 23. from B.A.:
Unsuccesful attempt of a counterrevolution in Santiago;commercial negotiations with the Junta,opposition of the British merchants

May 10. from B.A.:
England recognises General Elio and tries to mediate between B.A. and Montevideo.
— Part in cipher.

June 16. from B.A.:
Prospects of the revolution in South America; relation of B.A.to the foreign powers;~~reduc-~~ tion of ~~the~~ British influence in B.A. through the efforts of Poinsett.Growing regard for the U.S. Expects revolution in Lima. decrease

June 29. from B.A.:
Recommends the agents from B.A. sent to the U.S. Armistice with Peru.England nominates consul in B.A.,recommends the same for U.S.

July 25. from B.A.:
Defeat of the army of B.A. in Upper Peru. Negotiations with Brazil.Parts in cipher.

July 30. from B.A.:
Conflict with Brazil expected,Revolution in Arequipa.Parts in cipher.

Sept.1.from B.A.:
Retreat of the army of B.A. in Upper Peru. Party differences in the army,the same party spirit in Chile.Portuguese offensive in the direction of Montevideo.Declining influence of England.

Sept.15. from B.A.:
Negotiations between B.A. and Montevideo. Expects change of government in B.A.

Sept.21 from B.A.:
Has instructions dated April 30,received. Successes of the Spaniards in Upper Peru. Interuption of the negotiations with Montevideo.

Sept. 23. from B.A.:
Change of Government,end of the party of Saavedra.

Oct.3. from B.A.:
Conquest of Potosi by the Spaniards.The provinces of Upper Peru in the hands of Spain.Negotiations with Montevideo resumed.Decline of B.A. caused by party spirit.

Oct. 24. from B.A.:
The different parties in B.A.The influence of the different European powers.He has an alliance of all Spanish America under the protection of the U.S. to the government of B.A. Mission of Rivadavia to the U.S. probable.Revolution in Chile. Epropose

Nov. 2. from B.A.:
Relating to his accounts.

1811.

Nov. 25. from B.A.:
Change in the government, reorganisation of the army, Uprising of the Indies in Upper Peru, rumours about the English policy and mediation, his intention to depart for Chile, friendly disposition of the government of B.A. towards the U.S.

1812.

Jan.28. from Santiago:
Receipt of instruction of July 12th, transmits letter of the English captain Fleming to the government of Chile, dated Oct. 3.1811.

X Febr. 26 from Santiago.: Reception and recognitions as am. Consul General at Santiago.

March 8. from Santiago, No.1.:
Friendliness of Chile towards the U.S. Possibilities of american commerce with Chile.

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March 9. from Santiago:
the government of the Carreras strongly in favor of independence, sympathies for France. Differences with the province of Conception.

March 15. from Santiago, No.5.:
Has Mr. Hoevel nominated as Consul for Santiago and Valparaiso.

July 22. From Santiago:
End of the differences with Conception.

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April 21. from Santiago:
Has taken the command of the forces of Chile against Lima, his reasons, New party struggles in Chile, English mediation, submission to Spain now probable. B.A. will submit to Spain or England.

* Aug. 5, from Santiago:
Successes of the Royalists in Chile. Poinsett has again taken the command of the independent forces, his reasons.

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Recapitulates at length his reasons for his active participation in the contest against Peru.

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Gives, on the eve of leaving, general survey over condition in South America. Optimistic forecast for the success of the independence movements.

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Reports his return to Ch. on the 28th.

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7

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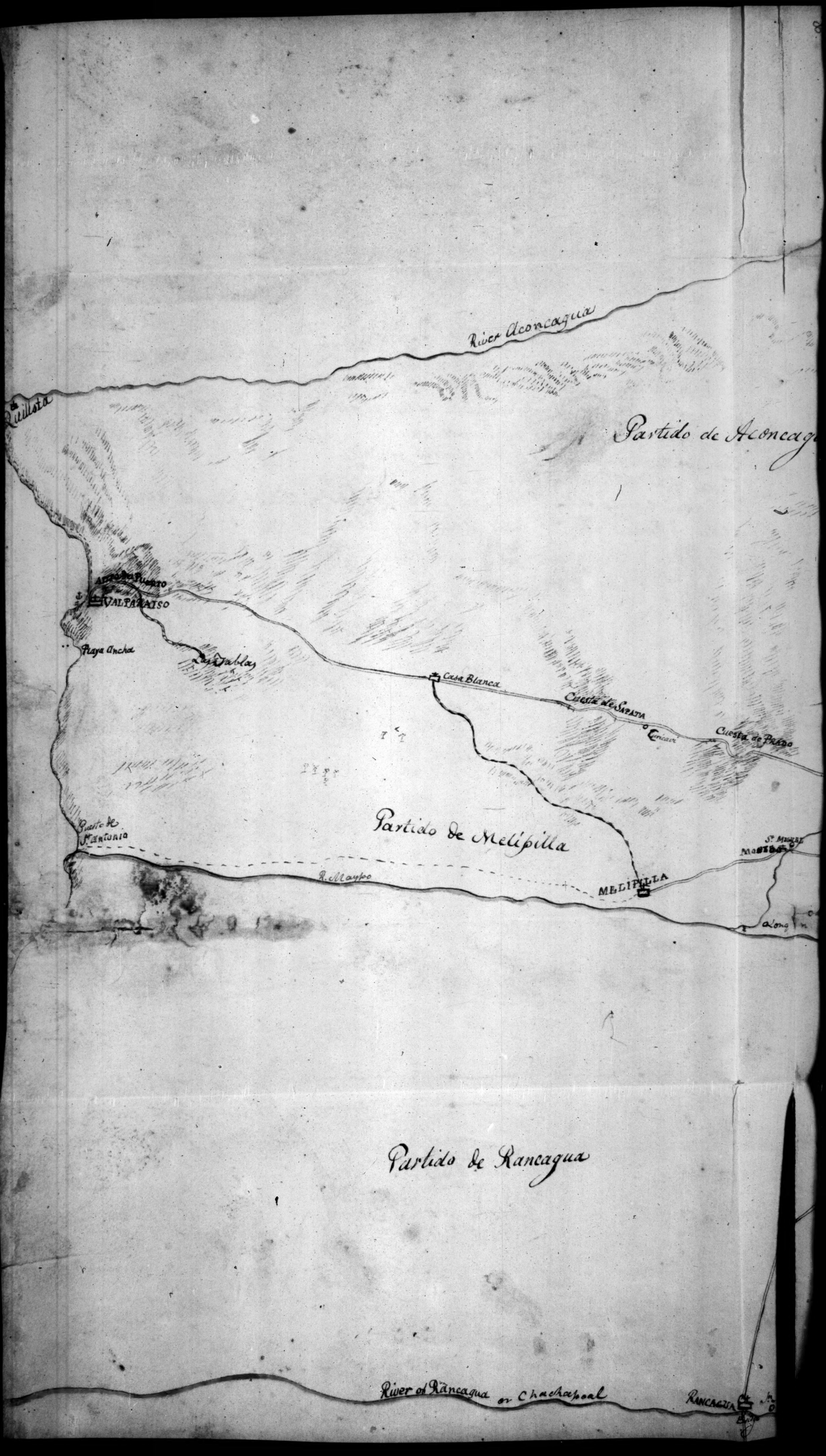
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River Aconcagua
Partido de Aconcagua
Abra del Puerto
VALPARAISO
Playa Ancha
Casa Blanca
Cuesta de Prado
Partido de Melipilla
Puerto de Santonio
St Miguel
MELIPILLA
R. Maypo
Partido de Rancagua
River of Rancagua or Chacabuco
RANCAGUA

Valley of Aconcagua

Aconcagua

Quillota

Valley

Colina

Partido de Santiago

River Mapocho

SANTIAGO de CHILE

Canal near Santiago

PLAINS of MAYPO

River Maypo

Suspension Bridge

La Angostura

Bridge of Cauquenes

Contents

- Map
- State of Society, Trade &c. &c.
- Table of the Revenue and Expenditure of the kingdom of Chile in 1813
- Table of the Regular Forces of Buenos Ayres (
- Table of the Regular Forces of the kingdom of Chile
- Table of the Militia of Chile
- Principal Events of the Revolution in the kingdoms of Chile & Buenos Ayres...
- State of Parties and Characters of the Revolution.

State of Parties and Characters
of the revolution ———

State of Parties and Characters of the Revolution

Gervasio Posadas, the supreme Director, is a plain good man who feels sensibly the slavery, and responsibility of the conspicuous station to which his party have raised him; and is so extremely desirous of withdrawing himself from it, that altho his term of two years has not more than half expired, it is probable, that he has ~~one~~ this date, been succeeded by Nicolas Peña a Lawyer of Abilities. President of the Council, The brother of this man receives a pension from the British government, for having assisted General Beresford in his escape from Buenos Ayres. He himself is reckoned not to be incorruptible, and I have some reason to believe, that English gold was employed to effect the last revolution in favour of this party, the most timid, and most easily swayed by great Britain. No fears ought to be entertained on that account, for whatever may be the disposition of the reigning faction, or the views of the British Cabinet, the popular sentiment is so strong against the english, that they can never gain a permanent Footing in these Countries.

The next in point of influence and Abilities in this party, is Juan Larrea a native of Catalonia, Secretary of the Hacienda (treasury) and a member of the Council He possesses a fair understanding, is acquainted with the english and french language, and has read extensively. He is artful, and dissembling; he flatters the English, live by them as a merchant: but mortally hates them. He is vain ambitious and daring. He uses great exertions to secure himself against the bad faith of his own party, and has obtained the Colonelcy of the first regiment of Infantry for his brother in law Vasques, who is a good Soldier, and for his Brother to be Lt. Colonel and Commander of the Director's guard of three hundred cavalry.

He acquired great credit for having planned the late naval Expedition against Montevideo. In conducting the fitting out and arming of this Squadron he was assisted by Mr. William White, a native of the United States, a man who has been concerned in all transactions in Buenos Ayres since the invasion of the british to the present day. He assisted General Beresford to escape. he was General Whitelockes informer, and he has since lent himself to all parties, and has been alternately courted and persecuted by all. to make his fortune is his sole aim "rem quocumque modo rem" has been his motto. He is active, industrious and intelligent, with a perfect knowledge of the characters with whom he has to deal, and restrained by no principles of honor from the pursuit of his favorite object.

Herrera the Secretary of State is a lawyer of some talents and of profound dissimulation; his reputation stands high with his own party, which he owes principally to a great facility of composition and elegance of style. This means florid and redundant, as the Eloquence of a Spaniard must be understood to consist in a correct pronunciation a vehement manner, and the art of clothing a trite idea with all the redundant verbosity of the Castilian language. According to this rule Gomez is an Eloquent Priest, He is a counsellor and a member of the Assembly, on whose talents for debate the party rely. His Abilities are superficial, but he ranks high in Buenos Ayres. He has attached himself to this party in hopes of preferment, and is disposed to make every sacrifice, for the attainment of the great object of his ambition, the Bishoprick of B. Ayres.

Carlos Alvear is a Creole of Buenos Ayres, but was educated in Europe. He arrived in the height of the revolution, and has taken an active and conspicuous part. Shortly after his arrival, he was elected a member of the Assembly, and acquired great reputation and influence. He soon perceived that the military possessed the real command of the commonwealth, and solicited and obtained a Colonelcy. He is resolute, active, and enterprising, and is not restrained by his principles from the prosecution of his views. He dislikes the English and the policy of his

party can scarcely indoce him to be civil to them. His mother and family perished in the destruction of the Spanish frigate which blew up, in the unjustifiable attack made by the English on the Spanish squadron returning from South America, before the declaration of War in ——— His father

with whom he was, commanded one of the frigates in that action, and was captured and carried to England. Alvear commanded the army on the eastern shore when Montevideo capitulated, and has already arrived at the highest honors of the state. Captain General of the armies of B. Ayres with the rank of Brigadier. His vanity and ambition have excited the jealousy of the people and even of his own party. Had he appeared at a later period of the revolution it is probable that he would have been the military Despot of B. Ayres, to which his views are directed.

Peña, Larrea, Herrera, Gomez, and Alvear are the only men of abilities in the reigning party, and really govern the state. Xavier Viana, the Secretary of War is one of the very few who understands the regular distribution of military service according to the Spanish ordonnances: and is very useful to them. He is in every other respect a weak man, vain and full of prejudice: of great personal courage, but vacillating indecisive.

Miguel Azcuenaga is a good but a weak man, and has made a Counsellor from his weight with the people. He is a warm and an open friend of the Americans, and always disposed to be serviceable to them, he is perhaps the only conspicuous man in Buenos Ayres, who can be said

to be void of guile.

Monteagudo is one of the out door tools of the party. He talks and writes for them, as he would for any other that would countenance and pay him. He possess the English and French languages, and his talents which he degrades. He was the Elève of Castelli, who was the most able, the most eloquent, but the most corrupt and unprincipled of the leaders of this revolution.

Hipolito Vieytes, the Minister of the Police, acquired a reputation for talent from having edited, previous to the revolution, a periodical paper of no literary merit. His conduct has not supported his reputation, altho the people still think highly of his abilities, because a discontented mind, and an envious peevish disposition lead him to condemn every few persons take into consideration measure of government. [redacted] That, all measures of human policy are but a choice of evils, and therefore that, the most perfect must necessarily present faults, [redacted] which are evident to a common understanding. His interest has in some degree got the better of his temper, and attaches him to the present rulers.

Manuel Luzuriaga is Colonel of the civic guard, and a member of the Asembly, who votes with the party in power. That he has been a usefull friend of the americans is all to be said of him. His brother is Colonel of a regiment of Liberti and is a good soldier.

Alvarez Jonte is an artfull lawyer, and a corrupt and ambitious man. He is at present employed by the Directour in Peru; but would promote a revolution against him.

Brigadier Belcarce who commanded the first expedition to Peru, under Castelli; and who is at present military Governor of Buenos Ayres, is a pompous ignorant man, obsequious to all parties and useful to none.

Colonel French is much talked of in B.A. Ayres, he is related to Alvear, and is attached to his party. He is very insignificant and of no weight but, what he derives from his station.

Colonel Beruti is an ignorant man, but has been in Spain and is a great talker. He took an active part in the scenes which preceded the revolution; he is friendly disposed towards the americans and might be made useful.

The Baron de Hollenberg is an officer who fled from the persecutions of the French in the Tyrol., and was brought to America by Alvear, and has since married his niece. He served with distinction in Spain He is Colonel of the regiment of Saavedra, and is an useful officer.

Chiclana was a member of the Executive nominated on the deposition of Saavedra, and took possession of the command in the full enjoyment of the public confidence, and most shamefully betrayed his trust. He is of brutal manners, passionate temper, and most corrupt principles. His public character shewed him in all his deformity. He was detested whilst in office and is now universally despised.

Rivadavia, another member of that government, is a man of talent, but of most infamous character. The slave of avarice and of every selfish vice, he was a cowardly tyrant when in power, and a base abject wretch in his fall.

Manuel Sarratea was elected a member of the same Government, and his companions to get rid of his interference in the administration, gave him the command of the army on the eastern shore. From the reputation of this man this appointment raised the expectations of the people & he was considered, and thought himself equal to the commands of an army, because he had read Guibert and had translated into Spanish the tactics of the French cavalry. The Soldiers judged him better, and soon lost all confidence in him; and the officers cabalted against him. He was deprived of the command and Rondeau placed at the head of the army. He retained the command for two years, and was superceded by Alvear at the moment Montevideo was expected to surrender. Rondeau now commands in Peru and it is thought will be again superceded by Gen.l Alvear. He is a good officer and enjoys the confidence of his troops. He has already given proofs of an intriguing turbulent disposition in his plot against Sarratea: and the opposition endeavours to rouse him to declare himself openly against the present rulers.

Sarratea is the Agent mentioned, in the Sketch of the revolution, to be now in London. He understands the English and French languages, and they have a high opinion of his diplomatic talents. A bankrupt in fortune, and devoid of honor he is a fit subject to be corrupted by the British Cabinet.

Juan Martin Puerreydon was elected a member of the same Executive and before he entered on the duties of his station enjoyed

87

the most brilliant reputation. He had distinguished himself in the defence, and reconquest of Buenos Ayres. He had been sent to Madrid by the City to remonstrate against the conduct of the Viceroy: and had since convened the first Cortes to the Princess Carlotta from the revolutionists: of very insinuating and popular manners, active and daring he was the idol of the people. His qualities are however more dazzling than solid; fond of applause, and eager to distinguish himself by acts of enterprize and bravery, he did not possess the patient resolution which would support him, thro' a long continued series of misleading dangers, from which no one act could release him: and his activity was that of a restless spirit, unequal to the expence of continual exertion, or to the exertions necessary to conquer steady opposition. With too much virtue to accord with his companions, he began to openly oppose and quarrel with them: but finding his first efforts unsuccessful, he ceased to attend the government, and with Medrano another colleague, a man of talent, but of vicious habits, forgot his duty to his country in the pleasures of the Capital. He is now banished to the town of San Luis, and may still be considered the chief of a powerful party in opposition to the present government.

Juan José Paso the secretary of the first Government and the president of the Court, is a man of unbended

abilities; inclined to intrigue; but too timid to profit by a strong party, and extensive family connexions. He contributed to the overthrow of the Executive of Chiclana Rivadavia and Puerreydon and the party to get rid of him sent him on a mission to Chile, where he now is.

Colonel Florencio Terrada at the commencement of the revolution commanded the regiment of Granadeers, he was afterwards made Governor of Mendoza, in order to remove him from the army; and he is now town major of Buenos Ayres. He is a man of very moderate talents and of little character, Obsequious to all parties, he is secretly discontented with all, because they overlook his transcendant merit.

San Martyn a native of Paraguay, received a military education in Spain, and is the best Officer in the service. He has been of great use in organising their forces. I only know him by report, which speaks him a brave Officer and an honorable man, but only fit for the business of the field. He espoused the present rulers to effect the last revolution, and has since been sacrificed to the ambition of Alvear, who will not suffer so formidable a rival to have an active command. He is now governor of Mendoza. The most sensible of the Opposition place great confidence in him, and in Colonel Cruz of whom they speak as a good Officer and a man of solid talent.

Anchorena was bred a priest, has travelled in Europe, and is tolerably well acquainted with the Character and policy of the English Cabinet. He is a member of the Assembly, and

9

except Colonel Mendez, is the only one who dares openly oppose the measures of the government. He has great influence and is indefatigable in his exertions to dethrone the Party in power.

Agarteche has a lawyer of reputation in Buenos Ayres and disposed to be usefull to the American interests.

14

Moreno altho not very favorably disposed towards the present Government, is employed as Secretary, to prevent his exciting an active intriguing spirit against them. He has been in England, and returned very much disgusted with his treatment, and much incensed against the English. He is a man of some talent, but not of the splendid abilities which his Brother Mariano, who was the principal Engine of the revolution, and the founder of every thing useful since. He fell a sacrifice to the violence of his own passions, and to the animosity of Saavedra.

The Character of Cornelio Saavedra is sufficiently known by his actions when President of the Junta. Ambitious and resolute, he did not possess sufficient talent to see farther than the immediate Consequences of his actions, and fell a sacrifice to his own Contentions. He was assisted by the Council of Juan Jean of Cordova a man of great literary acquirements in that country. Saavedra altho proscribed and banished may still be considered as the Chief of a very powerfull faction in Buenos Ayres.

Ocampos was the agent of Saavedra in the revolution of the fifth of April, and was left by him on his

departure for Peru, Commandant of the Garrison of Buenos Ayres. He sold his trust, and whilst he was at the head of a regiment, proved the accommodating tool of every party. The present rulers, after they had profitted by his treachery, deprived him of his regiment, and sent him to govern one of the remote provinces of Peru, where he now is.

Artigas, who commands the people of the Eastern Shore of the river of Plate, now in arms against the government of Buenos Ayres, is the most active Partizan of Saavedra, previous to the revolution he was a Smuggler on the Portuguese frontier, and a daring intrepid outlaw. At the instigation of Saavedra he brought his followers against Montevideo, and excited the inhabitants of the Eastern Shore to revolt. He has acquired an unbounded influence over this people, and is surrounded by a band of desperate Adventurers, who find under his command, suitable to gratify their savage plundering disposition. After the surrender of Montevideo finding himself unable to oppose the army of General Alvear, he professed to submit to the government of Buenos Ayres, provided he was left Commander in chief of the Eastern Shore, to this proposal Alvear, who was anxious to withdraw his forces, assented, and Artigas received a commission to govern that territory in the name and behalf of the Supreme Director. The moment after the troops had crossed the river, he returned his Commission, with an insulting message. General Alvear was dispatched with three thousand men to reduce him by force. The result of his operations was not known, when I left Buenos Ayres.

Soler, the present military Governor of Montevideo is an active enterprising officer. He commands a regiment of Liberts, and is likely to rise in the service. He is not very favorably disposed towards the present rulers.

Sáinz is a Lawyer of reputation and talents. He has been solicited to accept an office; but as he is opposed to the present rulers in principle, has refused. He was employed by me during my residence in Buenos Ayres, both as a Lawyer, and as a friend of the American Interest, and always acquitted himself with ability, and honor.

Manuel Belgrano has taken an active and conspicuous part

in the revolution. He is a sincere lover of his Country, and a warm friend of liberty, and is one of the few who have shewn themselves ambitious of true glory. Unfortunately for him, and for his Country, his abilities have been overrated; and in the conspicuous and responsible station which he has filled, he has disappointed the expectations of the People. He is named with Alcobano to proceed to Spain, as Deputies from Buenos Ayres, for the object already referred to. He is a steady, and useful friend to the American interests. +

The revolution in Chile has not taken of the distinctions which mark the character of the people. Their natural timidity prevented them from following the example of Buenos, and boldly asserting their rights. Revolutionary principles, if they existed, were but whispered in the private circles of the creoles, when the Captain General, on some slight denunciation, arrested three of the principal gentlemen of Santiago, Ovalle, Rojas and Vera. The two former quietly submitted and went to Lima, but Vera a native of Sta. Fe who like the whole people of the Viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres had imbibed a restless spirit, impatient of control, and always employed, in secretly intriguing against the party in power, feigned himself sick, and actually produced a fever by ligatures, in order to be left in Valparaiso. From the castle, where he was imprisoned, he instigated the Chileneans to reclaim their Countrymen, who had been exiled and sent to Lima without any legal process. He represented this act of tyranny, as a prelude to a general persecution of the creoles, and excited their fears to such a degree, that they gathered courage from despair and addressed a strong remonstrance to the Captain General, who being a weak and timid man recalled Ovalle and Rojas, and liberated Vera.

This act of resolution on the one part, and of weakness on the other, decided the revolution. Buenos Ayres sent agents among them who animated their courage, and directed their operations. Even family feuds were forgotten in the struggle

for freedom. All the Creoles of distinction in Santiago united, deposed the Captain general, and instituted a provisional government, which acknowledged the authorities of the peninsula and acted in their name. The most active of the agents of Buenos Ayres was Juan Rosas, a man of great literary acquirements and of some talents, but destitute of judgment. Elected a member of the Junta, he soon induced them to adopt a bolder tone and imitation of Buenos Ayres to assemble a Congress.

The family of Larrain is the most numerous and powerfull in Santiago. Hitherto separated by a deadly feud from the Carreras they united on this occasion, and the Larrains shielded their timidity beckind the open, intrepid characters of Juan Jose and Luis Carrera. The Father Dn Ygnacio Carrera, who altho full of the prejudices of his Education, is a man of sound sense, disapproved this union. But the young men enthusiastic in the cause of Liberty, refused to bend to their fathers advice, and acted as the Larrains directed.

On the opening of the Congress, an attempt was made by one Figueroa, a European. who had succeeded in seducing a regiment of dragoons, to effect a counter revolution, it was defeated by the valour of the Carreras. The Captain general who was implica-
ted

and the Judges of the royal audience have banished the kingdom.

The influence of the Larrains had declined in the Congress, amidst the disputes of party and the schemes of theoretical legislators, when they persuaded the Carrera, that their opponents were sold to the Princep Carlotta, and designed to deliver the country into her hands; and that in order to prevent them from executing this plot, it would be expedient to get possession of the army and to banish the traitors.

Jose Miguel Carrera who had lately returned from Spain, where he had attained with distinction to the rank of Major, was ignorant of the real state of parties and readily entered into their views. The artillery barracks were surprized by a few young men and the revolution effected.

The brian Larrain who possesses talents, which are disgraced by the cunning and malignity of his character, is the principal of the family and on this occasion was made President of the Congress. The Executive was composed of Juan Mc. Kenna, a Irishman who has been long settled in the country and who married a Larrain: he was at the same time made Commandant of the artillery. he has contrived to persuade the Chileneans, that he possesses great talents and great Erudition, but really is a weak and ignorant man: — of Gaspar Marin a man of fair talents, and unblemished reputation. of Juan Henriquez Rosales who stood high in the public Opinion before the revolution. he was educated in Spain, and returned persuaded of his own importance, and by

a pompous, mysterious demeanour imposed upon his
Countrymen. He thought to enthrone himself by the
assistance of the Carreras, and since they deserted him
has fallen into insignificance. Both these men are
Larrains. Jose Miguel Carrera was likewise made
a member of the Executive. Possessed of a strong
understanding and quick penetration, he soon saw
into the designs of the Larrains, who placed at the
head of the government, were impatient to get
rid of their agents. Their fears induced them to
resort to the basest means, and Carrera having dis-
covered a plot to assassinate them, assumed the
command of the military and dissolved the Congress.
Jose Miguel Carrera was placed at the head of the govern-
ment, and was assisted by José Portales administrator
of the mint, a man of some information and great
acuteness; by Jose Nicolas de la Cerda y Concha a
man of excellent moral character and of noble family
; and by Pedro Prado Jaraquemada, Colonel of a regiment
of Militia Cavalry. The Command of the regiment of Granadiers
was given to Juan José Carrera and the Artillery to Luis.
Dn Juan Rosas retired to Concepcion, and [illegible]
to [illegible]; and representing the designs of the Carreras to be
inimical to the cause of liberty, excited that province to
revolt. Both parties levied forces; but both preferred
intrigue to blows. In Santiago several unsuccessful attempts were
made to effect a revolution, and even to assassinate
the Carreras: and the partizans of Rosas finding him

without resources and unable to extricate them from their difficulties, deserted them, and the province of Concepcion submitted to the government of Santiago. Rosas was banished to Mendoza where he died.

Shortly after this event a provisional constitution, as defective as their constitutions usually have been, was framed and adopted in Santiago. A senate was instituted, composed of Egaña an acute lawyer, and the only man in Chile at all acquainted with the laws of Nations: of Manuel Salas one of the family of Larrain, a man of wit and ingenious talent, but excessively timid; of an intriguing spirit but afraid he should be known to have given an opinion, which is always an offence: of Henriquez Camilo a Friar who has acquired a reputation, from a talent of versifying, really a weak and a bad man. Of Jose Nicolas de la Cerda, and of Tagle a young man of some information and of fair talents, a partizan of the Carreras, but disposed to temporize with the victorious from fear of losing his great hopes.

When the Province of Concepcion was invaded by the Europeans The Carreras put themselves at the head of the army which marched to repell the invaders, and vested the civil authority in their mortal enemies Francisco Perez chief judge of the Audiencia, a Larrain, Ygsaguirre, and Jose Miguel Infante one of the numerous and powerful family of Errazuriz, enemies of Larrain, but united on this occasion to destroy the Carreras.

17 The effects of their machinations will be seen in the
Sketch of the revolution, depicted in them by Juan M.o
Kenna who acted as quarter master general of the
Army and Bernardo O'Higgins a man of great hon-
-ourity and well inclined, but irresolute and incapable
18 of directing himself. Jose Miguel Carrera resigned the
command, rather than quit the ruins of his Country
by obstinately retaining it and engaging in a civil war
whilst the Enemy still occupied a part of the Province of
Concepcion. His adversaries dreaded his presence in Santiago.
and basely betrayed him, and his brothers into the hands of the royalists.
At the Conclusion of the treaty which was effected thro' the
Mediation of the British Commandant,
, and in which they were excepted from the general
amnesty and exchange of prisoners; they effected their escape
and were in consequence outlawed by the government and
hunted like wild beasts. Luis was taken and imprisoned
but the party gathered courage and force from the
presence of Jose Miguel, who having collected a small
force, entered the city in the night and surprised
his adversaries. The Creoles who were extremely dis=
contented at the terms of the treaty, and much en
couraged by the fall of Montevideo and the success
of Buenos Ayres, recalled the Carreras with enthusiasm
and reinstated them in the government.

Yrrisarri a native of Mexico who married a Larrain, the
most active and unprincipled of their partizans, together
with Argumedo, M.c Kenna and Castro were banished to
Mendoza, the latter had been Supreme Director and a weak
tool of the Larrains.

I have purposely omitted speaking of the

Clergy and Friars; the most powerful engine of political intrigue in these countries, but the most difficult to manage, and varying in influence according to the election of their Provincials and Chiefs. These Chiefs agitate the minds of the people in a most extraordinary degree. Lately the Provincial offices of the religious orders were alternate between the Europeans and the Creoles; altho the Creole monks are much more numerous, it was very difficult to abolish the alternative. In Chile the Friars do not live in Common, but each one supports himself in the best way he can; whilst the Public fund is administered by the Provincial who by this means acquires great influence. Only the poorer sort live in their convents, and those who lodge in private houses, as Chaplains or Confessors acquire a dominion over the Inhabitants.

There are many Nobles, and rich and powerful families who have either remained totally inactive or have taken a secondary part in the revolution. The Character of these when it would be difficult and useless to delineate.

It may prove usefull to any future agent to say a few words on the character of Mr. Hovel whom I was induced to nominate Consul for Chile, from his long residence in the Country, and knowledge of the language and laws. He is a Native of Sweden and an adopted Citizen of the United States; he came first to these Countries as Clerk to the Captain of a Ship owned by Mr. J. R. Livingston of New York. The Ship was captured on the Coast of Chile by a Spanish guarda costa and illegally condemned. Mr. Hovel preserved the documents and

and returned with them to Mr. Livingston who sent him to Spain to endeavour to recover the property. In this he fortunately succeeded, and returned to Santiago, furnished with an order from the Council of Chile on the Treasury of Chile for the amount of the loss. For many years he employed this sum to enrich himself. On the Port of Chile being opened Mr. Livingston dispatched a Ship to be loaded on account of this money. To his astonishment the vessel was returned with a small sum in dollars and Copper and the proceeds of her cargo not accounted for.

Mr. Livingston wrote to me to enquire into the circumstances of this property, which led to a knowledge of these facts.

Mr. Hovel has since been admitted a citizen of Chile, and has most improperly interfered in the Party politics of that Kingdom, in which he took a part inimical to the interest of the United States. These circumstances induced me to suspend his commission, and to solicit the President to appoint a Consul for Chile.

Dr. Remigio Blanco an active intelligent Merchant no = main Vice Consul in Valparaiso, Dr. Manuel Servano to whose friendly services the Americans are already much indebted & Vice Consul Mr. Taleyrand, and Mr. Frost of New York Vice Consul in Coquimbo.

JOEL R. POINSETT

REPORT ON CUBA, UNDATED, ABOUT 1823, BOUND BY MISTAKE IN VOLUME 3, SPECIAL AGENTS. TO BE TRANSFERRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO VOLUME 9, SPECIAL AGENTS.

Sir

I have the honor to lay before you a Statistical account of the Island of Cuba & such information as I could collect during my short stay there in relation to the political state of the Island.

I am respectfully Your Obt Svt

J. R. Poinsett

To the President of the United States.

Account of
Cuba.
by J. R. Poinsett.

22

The Island of Cuba is situated between the 19th and 23d degree of North latitude and between the 74th and 84th degree of west Longitude. It is seven hundred miles long & seventy miles in breadth. A chain of hills of secondary formation runs through the Centre of the Island from East to West, from which the land falls gradually towards the Coast. It is gently undulating. The sides of the hills are capable of cultivation and some are cultivated in Coffee Plantations but the valleys and plains are extremely rich and fertile producing Sugar, Coffee, and tobacco. During the last seven years the average Crop has been 300.000 boxes of Sugar of 400 lbs each, and 25.000.000 of pounds of Coffee. ×

By

× In 1803 the Exports from the Havana are estimated by Baron Humboldt at Eight millions

By the census taken in 1817, it appears that the population then amounted to

Secular Clergy	515	1034
Regular ditto	348	
Nuns	171	

Souls

million of dollars Viz

158.000 boxes of sugar which he considers worth forty Dollars per box

50.000 arobas of Coffee (25lb) worth $5 the aroba and

40.000 arobas of wax at $10 the aroba

In 1821 the exports were

236.669 boxes of sugar

792.509½ arobas of Coffee

15.724½ ditto of Wax

26.664½ Hhds of Molasses

4.646½ pipes of rum

Shewing an increase in the exports of the Island of

78.669 boxes of sugar

742.509 arobas of Coffee

and a diminution of

24.275½ arobas of Wax

Clergymen

Population Brought forward		10314	
Troops regular & militia		19.430	
White men	129.656		Whites
Do Women	109.140	238.796	
			259.260
Free coloured men	30.512		
Do do Women	29.170	59.682	Fra Col. Persons
Free Black Men	28.373		
Do Do Women	26.002	54.375	
			114.057
Col.d Slaves men	17.803		
D.o D.o Women	14.499	32.302	
Black Slaves men	106.521		
D.o D.o Women	60.322	166.843	Slaves
			199.145
			572.462
Slaves introduced in 1817			25.976
			598.438
Fluctuating population			32.641
Total population of the Island in 1817 of which there were			631.079
Whites capable of Bearing Arms that is from 15 to 60 years of age			71.047
Free Coloured persons ditto do.			17.862
Free Blacks			17.246
Colored Persons Slaves			10.506
Negro Slaves			75.393
Carried Forward			192.054

Total number of persons Capable of bearing arms in 1817 bro forward — 192.054+

By the Spanish Constitution the Island of Cuba and Porto Rico are integrab parts of the Monarchy, and are governed like the provinces of old Spain. This Island is divided

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+ In 1804 the Island of Cuba contained according to Baron de Humboldt
432.000 inhabitants of which
234000 were whites
90.000 free Colored
108.000 Slaves
From 1804 to 1817 there were imported
95.606 Slaves which added to the num-
108.000 ber in 1804.
203.606
199.145 The Slave population according to the census of 1817. subtracted
4.461 Exhibits this Loss.

The average increase per annum of the whole popul ation from 1804 to 1817 is 19.077.
Supposing an annual increase to the year 1822 inclusive of 20.000 persons the present popul ation of the Island will be 731.079.—

divided into two provinces under the present Government, Havana and Cuba. The boundary line runs north and South, between Spiritu Santo and Puerto Principe, twenty five leagues from each of these towns.

The Civil Government of each province is entrusted to a political Chief, so called, appointed by the King, whose duty it is to see that the laws are carried into effect. By a general rule the Command of the Troops is distinct from the Civil power, but the Government may in certain cases vest both the civil and military authority in one person; and the Captain General of the Island is the superior political Chief of the province of the Havana.

In each province there ought to be a provincial deputation composed of the President (the political chief ex officio) the intendant and seven individuals. This Council is renewed every two years by halves; four going out at the first election, and three

at

at the most They are elected by the District electors the day after the election of deputies to the Cortes, and in the same manner. Their Duties are not very important, and only executive: they have no legislative power at all For the interior government of the cities there are ayuntamientos = City Coun= =cils = presided over likewise by the Political chief, and in his absence by the oldest alcalde.

The Province of Havana is subdivided into a Bishopric, Comprehends Matanzas Trinidad, Santo Espiritu, Remedios and Villa Clara. It contains a population of 197. 653 whites = 58. 506 free colored persons = 136. 213 Slaves = 14.000 Troops, = 25.000 transient persons = Total 431. 377 -

The Capitals of the districts of the Province of Havana, according to the division made by the provincial deputa= =tion, are Havana, = Town of Santiago = City of Bejucal = Town of San Antonio Abad = Guanajay = Guanabacoa = Filip= =pias = Jaruco = Guines = City of Matanzas = Santa -

Santa-Clara = City of Trinidad =

The City of the Havana by the Censeus of 1817 Contained within the Walls 44.319
In the Suburbs — . — . — . — . — 39.279
Ecclesiastics and Nuns — . — . — . — 477
84.075
Troops in Garrison — . — . — 10.567
94.642
Negroes introduced in 1817 — . — 25.976
120.618
Transient population — . — 20.000.
140.618

Of these 37.885 were whites — 9.010 free Colored = 12.361 free blacks = 2543 Colored Slaves = 21.799 black Slaves = 83.598 permanent population of the City and Suburbs: of which there were white men capable of bearing arms from 15 to 60 years of age 13.530
Black & Colored free persons — . — 8.111
Black and Colored Slaves — . — 9.427
31.068 +

+ The deaths in 1821 in the Havana were 2340 whites — 2126 blacks & Colored persons = 4466.
Births in the same year — . — 4326.
The excess of deaths to births is owing to the number of strangers and negroes introduced who die of the Black Vomit.

The annual consumption of the City is estimated at — — — — — — $ D. 489.030
The Value of articles brought up as Britis 318.776
The Value of the produce exported at 13.658.961
$ 18466.767

The number of vessels that entered the Port of the Havana in 1821 was 1322 exclusive of 300 small Coasters - of these 385 were Spanish, 655 American, 128 English, 72 French, 25 Dutch, 15 Bremenes, 13 Danish, 9 Hambenghers, 6 Portuguese, 5 Swedes, 4 Sardinian, 3 Pirates - 1 prize 1 = 1 Prussian and 1 Hannerian.

In 1822 there entered 1296 vessels, of which 386 were Spanish, 669 americans, 118 English, 62 French, 18 Dutch, 12 Hambenghers, 7 Bremenes, 6 Danish, 7 Portuguese, 4 Swedes, 2 pirates (prizes) 2 Sicilians, 1 Oldenbenghen, 1 Sardinian, and 1 Columbian (a prize).

The number of African Slaves imported from the Year 1800 to 1821

1821 amounts to 190.207.

Series of years.

1800	11.145	1811	6.349
1	1659	12	6.081
2	13832	13	4.770
3	9.671	14	4.321
4	8.923	15	9.111
5	4.999	16	17.733
6	4.395	17	25.811
7	2.565	18	19.902
8	1.607	19	15.147
9	1.162	20	17.194
10	6672	21	4.122
		Total	190.201

The annual receipts from the Custom House amount to about — $2.400.000

Receipts from Direct Taxes — 1.000.000

Expenditures. 3.400.000

The Expences of the Marine amount to about — 850.000

Those of the army — 1.390.000

The pay of those employed in the Treasury — 273.876

Payment of Pensions — 193.236

Expences of Fortifications &c — 142.788

Carried forward. 1.849.900

Expenditure Brought Forward 2.849.900
Rations to families emigrated from Florida — 14.400
Pay of Officers now unemployed pr ditto — 54.072
Support of officers from Mexico and Caraccas, and their pay & transportation } 825.396
Expences 3.743.768
Receipts 3.400.000
Deficit $ 343.768 ×

The province of Cuba comprehends the districts of Santiago de Cuba, Bayamo, Holguin, Baracoa, and Puerto Principe, and contains a population of 59.722 Whites = 57.185 free Colored persons = 63.079 Slaves = 4.430 Troops = 9286 Transient = Total 193.702

There are six Cities and six towns in this province that have ayuntamientos

The

× According to Baron Humboldt the revenue of the Island in 1804 amounted to $ 2.300.000 and the deficit was made up by an annual supply from Mexico of 1.326.000 Dollars.

Cities are Santiago de Cuba - Holguin = Baracoa = Puerto Principe = Boryano = Guiza - The towns are Higuani = Caney = = Cobre = Jiguabos = Manzanillo = Nuevitas - This province was erected into an arch = = bishopric in 1804.

Besides the ordinary Courts of justice there is an audienca, or Supreme Court of appeals for the Island of Cuba residents in the Province of Cuba.

When the census was taken in 1817, a note was made of the number of churches, houses, Farms &c by which it appears that there were then 204 churches = 112.263 houses - 1.762 farm houses = 623 Sugar estates = 779 Coffee plantations = 1.601 Tobacco plantations = 830 breeding farms = 1193 pastures - 354 Beehive farms = 17 Cocoa = plantations.

In 1817 the proportion of whites to the Free Colored population of the Island was 70/100 = to the Slave population 54/100 and to the Free Colored & Slave population combined 40/100. —

The Island is divided into three parties, the one composed almost entirely of Europeans, and disposed to remain attached to Spain under any circumstances: another desirous of absolute independence, and the third anxious to unite with us, and to become a part of our union. The latter party is by far the most numerous and the most respectable. They think their union with us affords the only security against foreign dominion and domestic insurrection. Emissaries have visited the Island from Mexico and from Columbia, but all parties are averse to connecting themselves with those Governments, especially in their present unsettled state.

The British have two Agents here under the pretext of seeing the regulations respecting the Slave trade carried into effect. The one is a man of talents, who lives a retired life at Guanabacoa. The other a sprightly gentleman who speaks Spanish fluently, and has made his way into all the best families

in

in the Havana. His objects appear to be well understood by all the Creoles, with whom I conversed, and they assure me, that he must be aware by this time, that the English could not keep possession of the Island without destroying the Creole population. Neither of the Liberal Parties are disposed to act precipitately, and so long as there is no change in Spain, so long as the Constitution lasts, they will rest satisfied. They express their firm determination to resist to the last any attempts to transfer the Island to Great Britain, or any decree of the Spanish Government not strictly in conformity with the Constitution

They may however be brought into collision with the Europeans, without premeditated design on their part. The occurrences at the late election for deputies must have convinced them of this, and it is evident, that much anxiety and uneasiness exists among the Creoles since that affair.+

+ On this occasion the creoles triumphed, principally as it was supposed from the soldiery having

The continued indisposition of the present acting Captain General, and his irresolution and total unfitness to restrain the turbulence of the lower orders of European Soldiery ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~ ~~_____~~

increase their anxiety and obliges them to be constantly on their guard. His removal either by death a resignation would occasion a little greater danger, as he would be succeeded until.

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and an overwhelming force was collecting without the City. Ignorant of these movements the European and Soldiery sent to demand the punishment of forty ~~Europeans~~ Creoles, whom they accused of having insulted them, and of having occasioned the riot. The Captain General very much alarmed was about to grant their insolent demand when he was informed by a respectable creole of the force collected without the walls, and of the inevitable consequences of acceding to the demands of the Europeans and of arresting those individualy. This intelligence encouraged him to resist the mutiny and when the militia and troops who had been forty eight hours under arms in their barracks, were informed of the means of resistance proposed by the Creoles, they agreed to a compromise, and the opprobrious epithet of Godos was declared to be seditious.

until the arrival of General Tacon by [illegible] O'Reilly, a Creole, a man of good understanding and of liberal and enlightened views. The Europeans could not be reconciled to see the Supreme Command exercised by a Creole. In their present excitement, they would not regard him with jealousy, but might attempt to place some other person in the command, which would be resisted by the Creoles.

There are titles of Castile in the Island = thirteen Marquesses and Seventeen Counts: they are Creoles and attached to the liberal parties. The Europeans who have been long resident in the Island, who are mar= =ried and have acquired landed estates are likewise liberals. They all fear a com= =bination of the lower orders of Europeans, the disorderly Soldiery, and the Slaves, which their vicinity to St. Domingo would render very dangerous. The City Council of Havana after having repeatedly and in vain solicited from the Superior Political Chief the arms necessary

necessary to equip the local militia, and having on a late application been told by him that the 6000 stand of arms in the arsenal were destined for other uses, resolved on the 24th of December last to purchase them, and by a proclamation of the have incited the Creoles to Contribute by subscription to obtain a sufficient number of muskets "to arm all the worthy patriots who are disposed to enlist under the Constitutional banner of their Country."

I cannot close this account of the Island of Cuba without adverting to the system of piracy organized and protected by the subaltern authorities of the Havana and adjacent towns.

The bands of Pirates in the Havana and in Regla have become so numerous and their leaders so wealthy, that the ordinary magistrate is awed and the Corrupt bribed to pass unnoticed the frequent and scandalous violations of the laws.

At the Regla a town in the bay opposite

opposite to the city of Havana, these marauders are organized into a society and are called muspelmen. They proceed from this place on their piratical Cruises, and return to it with their plunder which is openly sold. Those who have been wounded in the Skirmishes with our vessels of war, have been brought home and attended by Surgeons from Havana. all these actions have been known of at Regla, the intelligence being brought by fugitives, before any account, had reached the Havana.

A merchant of Havana lately sent his clerk to collect a debt due him by an inhabitant of Regla. The man was from home, and his wife apologised for his absence, and for not discharging the debt by saying that her husband had gone on a Cruise with the muspelmen (the Pirates); that she expected him in a few days, when she was sure he would be able to pay what he owed.

It was stated to me, that while the

Schooner

Schooner Juniss of Baltimore was in the Port of Havana, the Captain & Supercargo was applied to by an Inhabitant of the City well known to be engaged in fitting out Piratical Cruisers, to sell him the vessel, offering Cochineal and Indigo at a port to leeward in payment. This man openly boasted of his late successes with a fast sailing Schooner that he had purchased a few weeks ago. This vessel slipped out of Port and the person who sold it pretended to have been defrauded. This man said that he had paid 3000 Dollars in cash for the vessel, and for the remainder the owner had taken an interest in the Cruise which had been so successful as to pay for it. He boasted of having been concerned in the plunder of the French Ship bound from Veracruz to Bordeaux loaded with Cochineal and Indigo, which was obliged to bear away for New Orleans, the masts being cut away by the Pirates. Part of this plunder he offered in payment

for

for the Turcos, and on M. Chateau refusing to sell, he threatened to cut the Schooner out of the harbour. The Cargo of a British Ship consisting of Coffee was openly sold in the Havana, and upon information being lodged against the Pirates, they brought forward persons to swear that the Coffee was raised on their estates in the Island. Altho it was well known, that these men hop= -ped no Coffee plantations, their oaths stopped further prosecution ~~upon these men~~ and they sold their plunder.

The Statements contained in the Charleston & Louisiana papers, to which I refer you, are strictly true. I visited the town of Regla and saw the stores and Magazines where the plunder is deposited and sold. I saw too the men who are at the head of these bands of Pirates. I saw the Alcalde, who so notoriously receives bribes from these villains that not one of

them

them has ever been punished. In the streets of Havana Pirates were pointed out to me who were enriched by their villainies and were above the law.

The British Squadron was sent out here with an express understanding that the troops were to co-operate with them. Upon application of the Commandant he was informed by the Captain General that it was true he had received such instructions from his Government, but that he had no disposable force at that time. The Commandant convinced as every one must be that without the co-operation of the forces, and of the public authorities of the Island of Cuba a maritime expedition would be of no use, returned to England. We are about to incur a great expence, and to send out an expedition which will no doubt prevent the perpetration of piracies in the particular spots where it cruises, and so long as it

it remains in these seas. But these people are patient; they will not run any unnecessary risks. They will employ their fast sailing schooners on lawful voyages, until the fleet returns to the U States; and will then issue out again to renew their depredations on our Commerce.

It is extremely difficult to suggest a remedy for these disorders, especially as it is our intent to be on friendly terms with the Creole population of the Island, who deplore the want of virtue & energy in the European Authorities. We might insist upon Spain taking measures to expel from their territories men who are publicly known to be pirates and receivers of goods plundered on the high seas; ~~& we might insist upon~~ that government ought to be compelled to Co-operate with our forces by land and by water. In Havana alone there are not less than 6000 men, and a fleet of 3 Corvettes of 26 guns each, a brig of war and four Schooners, and

and it is worthy of remark that their fleet is always in port. It has never been sent against the Pirates, nor is there a single instance of any vessel under the Spanish flag having been plundered by these freebooters. Whatever may be the fact, it wears the appearance of Collusion on the part of the Spanish authority.

We ought to have at all times an Agent capable of representing and maintaining the rights of our fellow Citizens, who are continually insulted and maltreated with impunity by the European authority of the place. Our present agent not being accredited by the Gov. has no Weight with them, and if he dares to make any representations when an American Citizen is treated with cruelty and insult by a licentious Soldiery, he would

would draw upon himself their hatred 35
and vengeance. Then are instances of
reputable american Citizens being put
in the stocks, and exposed all night in
the public guard house to the insults of
the soldiery. Ships have been frequently
plundered in the harbours, and the crews
cruelly treated without a complaint being
made to the government, or any attempt
to redress the grievance of our fellow
citizens, or to punish the offenders.

By the Spanish Constitution the
Colonies are declared to be integral
part of the monarchy, and are now
governed in the same manner as the
Provinces of Spain. That government
would no more object to recognise an
Commercial Agent in Havana or in
St Juan (Porto Rico) than in Cadiz
or Barcelona. Such an agent would
be well received by the reputable Creoles,

of

of the Island, who are generally much attached to our government, and he might render more useful services to the Country than a minister in any other part of Spanish America. From its military position Cuba is important to the security of our Southern Maritime frontier, and every effort ought to be made on our part to prevent its being occupied by a foreign power, or becoming a negro commonwealth.

To the Editor of the Courier.

Years have passed, and we have been patient spectators of piracies committed upon our flag, by the merciless bodies of men issuing fr.. the ports of the Island of Cuba, and training into their bloody career individuals of other nations—some by threats, and others by the thirst of lucre; and to such a pitch of impunity is the system carried, from the impotence and imbecility of the Government of that Island, that regular settlements, with fortifications, are now established: one in the neighborhood of Cape Antonio, another upon Cayo Romano, in the Old Bahama Channel, whence, with Sugar-Key for a look-out, these barbarians issue, seizing upon every defenceless vessel, assassinating and torturing in a thousand ways their unhappy crews, and plundering their valuable cargoes. From these establishments boats are kept to look out, and warn if any danger. If a vessel of war appears, they skulk among the shoals and rocks where that vessel cannot follow, and a moment after they turn their backs, these marauders issue again to their horrid work. On the arrival of a prize, they notify the circumstance to the people inland—(captured vessels for weeks together are kept as depositaries of goods)—and such is the immorality of the inhabitants in general of that Island, that, instead of being horror-struck at such iniquity —instead of combining to root out an evil of such magnitude, this disgrace upon themselves and to humanity—they hasten to the scene, with money in hand, and purchase the articles composing these cargoes.

Occupation, and a profitable one, is thus afforded to a variety of individuals. Carriers by land, boatmen, and almost every coasting vessel, are in their interest—the whole forming such a fearful band, that justice is foiled in every attempt to chastise them. They have become popular, and the petty governor of a district, or captain of an armed band, dare not interfere with their proceedings, nor indeed do they attempt it. From these governors, downwards, every individual shares, more or less in the abominable profit of this unheard of traffic.

If such are the proceedings at a distance from the seat of Government, what will be said of transactions under its very eye—transactions well known to the Governor himself, and to the Admiral, inasmuch as they form the constant theme of conversation in Havana to great and small? Yet vessels of war lay at anchor idle in that harbor; there is no want of troops, both horse and foot; and to what are we to attribute this apathy? Merchant vessels, under the Spanish flag, are never molested by these marauders, and armed vessels observe and appear to look with pleasure upon the capture at sea of vessels of other nations. These are well corroborated facts.

In the very harbor of Havana, there is a village called Regla, inhabited in a great measure by these pirates: they are denominated the *Mussulmen*, and are perfectly well known to every individual there, and to numbers in Havana. A man called *Mateo Garcia* is at their head; and, so far from throwing a veil upon his conduct, he publicly boasts of his earnings, and that justice cannot touch him, *because he has money to buy justice.* From the wharf of this man sally forth the coasting vessels and boats employed in piracy. They load powder and arms without disguise. They pass the Moro Castle with regular licences, and at sea the concealed men of arms crowd the decks. Even in sight of the Moro, captures have been made. These vessels, and various other coasters, come to Havana, freighted with merchandize. At the wharf of Regla they are discharged, and this with little trouble or caution. If a guard passes, they are bribed, and pass in silence. If information is lodged with the Alcalde, a bribe is presented on the other hand, or threats which none of them can resist; and in open day are these goods presented for sale to the citizens of Havana. Such horrid circumstances would appear incredible to any moral man of any nation; but for a confirmation of their existence, we can fortunately appeal to every trader to that Island, and particularly to those who have visited Regla. Every one has been informed, more or less, of the facts contained in this paper.

Amidst such barefaced doings, it was impossible that every vessel should arrive and discharge in safety. Accordingly some have been seized in their progress inward, and the stolen property discovered. But so far from that property being restored, or the robbers consigned to the gallows, the former is generally consumed in expenses, and the latter in a few days left at liberty to pursue their nefarious course. An Alcalde, or a Judge, in whose hands the case is committed, receives a bribe proportioned to the favor he grants, and the matter is concluded.

These facts can be proved, at any time, from the expediente or process, which ought to exist in the public archives; and we will further add, that to such an extent is piracy carried throughout Cuba now, that its Government cannot, dare not, put it down.

world.

We assert then that the village called *Regla*, in the very bay of Havana, is inhabited in a great part by the identical robbers and assassins, who about Cape Antonio, upon Cayo Romano, and generally we may say about the coast of Cuba, have so long infested these seas, under circumstances which create a horror in every mind on the perusal of the details of the unhappy sufferers who fall into their possession. These robbers technically destinguished by the name of "XYSSULMEN" walk the streets of *Regla* and even of *Havana*, with impunity—they load vessels with powder and amunition in open day—they arrive and discharge their pillage at night with very little caution or trouble. A custom-house boat dare not to come near them—if the city guard approaches they are turned off with a bribe; and even the alcalde of *Regla*, DON GUMESINDO BALLIDO DE LUNA, is publicly known to receive bribes from these marauders at the head of whom is *Don Matev Garcia*, who has grown so rich with these spoils that he defies justice—It is he who assists the others in fitting out; at his wharf the goods are discharged and is it to be believed? In a store upon that wharf are these goods exhibited for sale, also with impunity! is it possible that the editors of the *Diario* and *Expectador* can alledge ignorance of these facts? We pledge our words that scarcely an inhabitant of *Havana*, great or small, but has this for a daily conversation.

An information is lodged, from time to time, against these marauders—the articles are found in their possession—nay, a schooner has been seized with the articles of a Dutch cargo on board, (by the bye the crew of that vessel has never been heard of.) In any other country one would think that condign punishment was to follow—but what was done in these cases? Every individual has been let loose to prosecute new robberies; and it is a fact, that the owner of the schooner above alluded to appeared with the greatest coolness, and bought her in at public sale for his own use. An assessor, a judge, or alcalde, is either cowed or bribed; and there is not one solitary instance of punishment following such a flagrant breach of the laws. If there should remain the least doubt in the mind of a single individual, with regard to the administration of justice in *Havana*, in these cases, we refer them to what is called the *expediente* or *process* regarding them. They are, or ought to be kept in the public archives, and are open to whoever chooses to look into them.

We have several instances beside us of the acts of the immaculate citizens of *Regla* whom the editors of the *Diario* and *Expectador* defends with so much warmth, and which we may probably communicate to the public from time to time—for the present one more instance:—A quantity of coffee, nearly 600 hogsheads, collected from the pillage of English ships, now lies and is offered for sale near *Bahia Honda*; part of this entering *Havana*, was seized, and ran a risk of confiscation. A person, noted upon the wharf of *Havana*, called BURREDO, (why should we conceal his name,) stepped forward to claim that property as his; and further, a respectable surgeon called *Montes de Oca* has declared, that that coffee grew upon his plantation, a place where no coffee has been produced to this day. We call again to witness the *Expediente* in this case, and we ardently hope that our government, in their remonstrances, will call for these papers which will furnish irrefragable proofs of the infamy with which these transactions are prosecuted in the island of Cuba.

And will it be pretended that the government of the island of Cuba, or its organ the editor of the *Diario*, are ignorant of these piracies? We dare to assert, without fear of contradiction, that they are acquainted with every particular; but such is the number concerned in them, that they dare not take decisive measures against them. It is in vain that they speak of the privateers of the Independent States of South America; these, at least, make their captures openly, and do not maltreat their victims. When we speak of *piracies* so called, of assassinations, of torture, and other horrid cruelties committed, we trace them invariably to the inhabitans of the Island of Cuba—small boats skulking under the mountain's corners of that coast fitted out and openly protected by residents in the *Havana* and *Puerto Principe*.

P. S.—Among the Piracies lately committed by the Barbarians which infest the coast of Cuba, near to Cape Antonio, are:—

The brig *Hannah*, of and for Philadelphia, from St Jago de Cuba: after binding the captain and supercargo of that vessel, they placed them over a slow fire, and tortured them in that manner into a confession of the property on board, of which, they robbed in tortoiseshell, coffee, &c. to the value of $17,000; putting 24 prisoners on board, without provisions, and forcing them towards New-Orleans, that no discovery might be made. [*See marine head.*]

The British brig *Ardent*, capt. Jones, of Grenada, from thence to Havana—robbed of every thing moveable except the jerk beef; the vessel assaulted with musketry; the captain beat to a jelly; the supercargo jumped overboard at the risk of his life.

The French ship *Venus*, from Bordeaux, captured and carried among the Keys, and unloaded of all her valuable dry goods, and (but for two Spanish passengers of some note on board) the crew would have been maltreated, if not assassinated.

These two last captures were made in sight of a Spanish letter of marque ship, a brig, armed and manned in a superior manner, who made not a single effort to save them.

The brig *Victory*, of London, a captured vessel, lays with impunity inside of the Coloradas, as a store ship for upwards of six weeks. The coffee of this brig and other vessels having been offered in vain, *deliverable at sea*, the whole now finds its way to the port of Havana, where it is deposited, taken out of the hogsheads, and in bags is introduced into the city in launches in open day, and sold at $20.

An information having been lodged against a part of this coffee, proceedings were instituted by an Alcalde, when a person of the name of BARRADO came forward, and *swore* that the coffee was his, that he bought it from one BERNAL, a respectable physician, who *swore* in his turn, that he had it from MONTES DE OCA, a respectable surgeon, and this last *swore* that *it grew upon his estate*, a place which *never has produced* fifty quintals of coffee to this day. It is thus that in Havana Justice is evaded.

A Sketch of Spanish Continental America, as divided into three Departments; shewing the Military Naval, Financial, Civil and Ecclesiastical administration of each, the Ports of Entry, Mint Establishments &c value of Exports (annually) to Foreign Countries &c upon the 1810. the epocha of the Revolution in that Country — 38

Department of the South

Military Govts & Commandancies —

Governors.

Vice Royalty of Lima

- Monte Video
- Paraguay
- Salta.
- Cordova.
- La Paz.
- St Cruz de la Sierra.
- Misiones
- Chequitos.
- Moscas.
- Charcas. — 10.
- Valparaiso.
- Valdivia.
- Juan Fernandez.
- Concepcion — 4.
- Callao.
- Chilca
- Huarachiri.
- Puno. — 4.

Governors — 18.

Vice Royalty of La Plata

- Buenos Ayres — 1.

Commandants.

- Sanhago de Chili
- Los Angeles. — 2
- Lima (City).
- Cuzco — 2

Total 23.

Civil Administration.

Audiences or High Courts.

- Charcas.
- Buenos Ayres — 2.
- St Iago de Chile. — 1.
- Lima (City)
- Cuzco — 2

Total 5.

Department of the Center

Military Govts & Commandancies.

Governors.

New Granada.

- Carthagena
- Santa Martha
- Rio de la Hacha.
- Panama.
- Porto Bello.
- Veragua
- Darien
- Quito
- Guayaquil
- Maynas.
- Cuenca.
- Popayan.
- Choco.
- Llanos de San Juan.
- Antioquia — 15.

Venezuela.

- Caraccas.
- Margarita
- Cumana.
- Guayana
- Maracaybo.
- Barcelona
- Varinas — 7.

Governors — 22.

Commandants.

New Granada.

- St Fee de Bogota.
- Boca Chica.
- Portelillo
- Chagres — 4.

Venezuela.

- La Guayra.
- Porto Cavello
- Coro. — 3.

Total — 29.

Civil Administration.

Audiences or High Courts.

- St Fee de Bogota.
- Quito — 2

- Caraccas (City) — 1

Total 3.

Department of the North

Military Govts & Commandancies —

Governors.

W. Provinces. Old Mexico.

- Vera Cruz.
- St Carlos de perote
- Puebla.
- Xascola.
- Island del Carmen
- Tobasco — 6.
- Senora.
- Durango.
- new Mexico
- California — 4.

E. Provinces.

- Cohuilla
- Texas.
- New Santander
- New Leon — 4.
- Frontiers of Colola — 1

15.

Guatimala.

- Comayaga
- Costa Rica
- Nicaragua
- Chiapa — 4.

Yucatan

- Merida
- Bacalar — 2

Governors. 21.

Commandants.

Yucatan. Guatimala & Mexico.

- Mexico (City)
- St Juan de Ulloa
- Guadalacara — 3.
- Oaxaca
- Truxillo — 2
- Campeache — 1

Total 27.

Civil Administration.

Audiences or High Courts.

- Mexico (City)
- Guadalacara — 2

- Guatimala (City) — 1.

Total 3.

Department o[illegible] | Department of the Center. | Department of the North.

08

Intendancies

Vice Royalty of Lima. Now La Plata.

Buenos Ayres.
Charcas or La Plata.
Cordova
Paraguay.
La Paz
Potosi.
Stª Cruz de la Paz.
Salta — 8.

Lima
Guaquipa.
Cuzco
Huamanga.
Juan Cabalica.
Jarma.
Truxillo
Puno — 8.

Total 16

Intendancies

N.B.

The system of Intendancies were never established in N Granada or Chile. The Vice Roy in the former and the Captain Generals in the latter, were superintendents of finance. — And in Venezuela an Intendant Gnl was appointed.

Intendancies

Guatimala & New Spain &c.

Mexico
Durango
Guadalaxara
Merida de Yucatan
Oaxaca
Puebla
St Louis de Potosi
Valladolid
Vera Cruz
Zacatecas.
Guanaxuato — 12

Guatimala
Comayaga
Costa Rica
Chiapa
Nicaragua — 5

Total 17

Ecclesiastical Administration

Chile & La Plata.

	Arch.	Bishops
Charcas		
Lima	do	do — 2
La Paz	—	Bishop
Cordova		do
Stª Cruz de la Sierra		do
Salta		do
Paraguay	—	do
Buenos ayres		do
Santiago de chile		do
Conception		do — 10

Vice Royalty of Lima

Arequipa	do
Truxillo	do
Huamanga	do
Cuzco	do
Carcopolis	do — 5

Total 15

Ecclesiastical Administration

New Granada

	Arch.	Bishops
Stª Fee de Bogota		
Caracca	do	do — 2
Quito		Bishop
Popayan		do
Cuenca		do
Maynas		do
Carthagena		do
Stª Martha		do
Panama		do
Antioquia		do — 7

Venezuela

Merida	do
Guayana	do

Total 12

Ecclesiastical Administration

New Spain

	Arch.	Bishops
Mexico		
Guatemala	do	do — 2
Puebla		Bishop
Michacan		do
Oaxaca		do
Guadalaxara		do
Durango		do
Sinora		do
New Leon		do
Merida		do — 8

Guatimala

Comayga	do
Nicaragua	do
Chiapa	do — 3

Total 13

Ports of Entry

Chile & La Plata

Monte Video	Atlantic
Buenos Ayres	do
Valparaiso	Pacific
Concepcion	do

Lima

Calloa	do
Arica	do — 6

Total 6

Ports of Entry

New Granada

Guayaquil	Pacific
Panama	do
Chagres	Atlantic
Porto Bello	do
Carthagena	do
Santa Martha	do
Rio de la Hacha	do — 7
Maracaibo	do
Porto Cavello	do
La Guayra	do
Barcelona	do
Cumana	do
Guayana	do
Margarita	do — 7

Total 14

Ports of Entry

New Spain

Vera Cruz	Atlantic
Acapulco	Pacific
San Blas	do — 3
Omoa	do
Campeache	do — 2

Guatimala

Total 5

Department of the South	Department of the North	Department of the West	
Naval Departments.	**Naval Departments.**	**Naval Departments.**	39
Callao Lima — 1 Monte Video La Plata — 2.	Carthagena (N Granada) 1.	San Blas (Mexico) 1.	39
Mints.	**Mints.**	**Mints.**	
Potosi La Plata 1. St Iago de chile 1 Lima (City) 1 Total 3.	Stª Fee de Bogota — 1. Popayan — 1. Total 2.	Mexico (City) — 1. Guatimala — 1. Total 2	
Exports (annually)	**Population**	**Average Consumption of foreign Commodities pr each person**	
Department of the South $ 26.700.000 North 40 100.000. Centre 14.707.000 Total $ 81.507.000	of all classes — 7.500.000 — 7.000.000. — 3.500.000 Total Population 18.000.000	Proportion of Consumption each person $ 5. 34. 3.80. 4.00 General average 4.48.	
Annual Revenue	**Annual Revenue**	**Annual Revenue**	
Yielding by Custom about 40/100 of the amt of exports. $10.500.000.	about 41½ on the amt of Exports $ 6.000.000.	about 57 100 on the amt of Exports. $23.600.000	
Extent of Territory in Square Leagues 25 to the degree. Sq. Leagues. 195.978.	Extent of Territory in Square Leagues 25 to the degree. Sq. Leagues. 112.500.	Extent of Territory in Square Leagues 25 to the degree. Sq. Leagues. 144.900.	
Proportion of Slaves about 60.000	Proportion of Slaves about 150.000	Proportion of Slaves about 130.000.	

Recapitulation		Recapitulation		Recapitulation		Tota
Governors & Commandancies	23.	29.		27.	39	
Audiences or High Courts	5.	3.		3		
Intendancies	16.	1		17		3
Arch Bishops	2	2.		2		
Bishops	13.	12.		11		3
Ports of Entry	6.	6.		5.		
Naval Department	2.	1		1		
Mints	3.	2.		2		
Exports to Foreign Countries	$26.720.000.	$14.707.000.		$40.100.000.	1	
Revenue	10.500.000.	6.000.000		23.600.000.		4.
Extent of Territory	195.978.	112.000.		144.000.		45.
Population	7.500.000.	3.500.000.		7.000.000.		18.1
~~Proportion of Slaves~~	60.000.	150.000.		130.000.		
Vice Royalties.	2.	1.		1.		
Capt Generalships	1.	1.		(1) 2.		
Proportion of precious Metals	$20.290.000.	6.500.000.		31.830.000.		58.6
& other articles	6.430.000	8.207.000.		8.270.00.		22.90
	$26.720.00	$14.707.000		$40.100.000		81.527.

Santiago de Chile

Feb.y 20.th 1813

Sir

notwithstanding the difficulty of communication, some of my numerous letters must have reached you and I have kept you informed of the state of these countries. you will have seen a series of 427, 689, 161, 101, 807, 522, 407, 211, 1341, 1511, 1027, 324, 318, 1549 1104, 1355, 129, 214, 147, 1397, 249, 218, 1095, 522, 324 713, 1115, 915, 1168, 1407, 1458, 1236, 1604, 149, 242, 1399 463, 434, That this was to be expected from a people without illustration or the means of acquiring it, emerging not by their own exertions, but by a chain of fortunate circumstances from the oppression of ages, is not to be controlled, but it is necessary to be intimately acquainted with the effects produced on the human mind by long continued oppression, to conceive how these men shrink at the approach of danger; and altho well aware that their only safety consists in [illegible] their [illegible] to oppose the

the common enemy, they continue to intrigue by the basest means for power under the weight of which they tremble and which they would abandon in the hour of peril; only four days since a conspiracy was discovered to assassinate the Carreras and all their adherents, and to place the government in the hands of the weakest and silest men in the kingdom. no dependance can be placed on the 1486, 1397, 1355, 1002, 1355 486, 1095, 522, 249, 218, 1095, 1397, 891, 971, 269, 531, 1215 426, 1458, 545, 172, 522, 1215, 694, 1228 1493, 1219, 774 1038, 219, 58, 522, 697, 447, 514, 855, 1184, 232, 1348, 1371, you will have seen that 708, 713, 537, 410, 1215, 368, 1348 1355, 1228, 459, 47, 1397 891, 971, 194, 1589, 739°, 618, 116 708, 377, 194, 1320; 1348, 73, 765° 1273, 194, 1320, 1171, 781, 1344 416, 400, 618, 116, 708, 377, 194, 1355, 846, 1547, 1404, 1413, 765, 134 924, 708, 1484, 692, 1456, and dictated by the first 664 1397, 541, 670, 1385, 505, 1223, 601, in the documents I have already forwarded will prove:

Lima still continues in the same situation the military forces and the people in action. their Cruisers still blockade the port of Valparaiso and Conception capturing all foreign ships and enforcing the Spanish colonial laws. 708, 713, 1412, 200, 1059, [illegible], 1299° 1397, 1228, 441 369, 531, 1355, 368, 1397, 891, 916, 1441, 901, 1355, 577, 1399, 1397 204°, 522, 1355, 962, 1897, 1355, 1285, 1132, 1028, 1524, 1412, 1253, 48 1286, 1227, 1355, 720, 324, 687, 1262, 1359, 1554 1355, 1244, 1215, 244, 390, 522, 155 , 1002, 634, 400, 194, 1215, 1111, 1107, 1357

1115, 1171, 1192, 1202, 1194, 1038, 249, 413, 1355, 673, 148, 431, 13
1890, 800, 1549, 1348, 285, 1392, 122, 1460, 771, 687, 503, 634, 318,
574, 1577, 1236, 583, 58, 1215, 21, 324, 427, 285, 264, 1203, 1392, 668
827, 1138, 1136, 437, 285, 805, 1133, 19, 1114, 917, 770, 1188, 453, 1599
666, 1132, 1199, 538, 1496, 1348, 561, 7881 1394, 1512, 131, 1115, 1496
1524, 396, 136, 400, 1228, 12, 469, 1175, 1179, 765, 1114, 1215, 694, 1017, 1329
774, 1038, 677, 718, 684, 410, 1456, 1397, 2040 687, 1348, 1077, 1355, 1540
1357, 249, 413,

The melancholy Calastrophy of Caraccas has not affected the public mind as may to be expected, and you will perceive the decided spirit of the ruling party by the inclosed proclemation decreeing funeral honors to those martyrs of Liberty.

It is my intention to accompany my friend Jose Miguel Carrera actually president of Chile, to the frontiers of France to have an interview with the chiefs of that nation.

1355, 1006, 120, 854, 1397, 891, 958, 1120, 538, 1354, 1228, 205, 1355
1228, 1127, 1401, 1397, 1150, 249, 101, 1215, 522, 711, 545, 456, 1348, 1355
460, 1397, 1190, 412, 1341 531, 1512, 1221, 1281, 1348, 269, 199, 1524
1548, 1250, 542, 1800, 1582, 1355, 399, 485

Mr. Miller will have informed you of the state of Buenos Ayres, and of the continued revolutions of that government. the army employed so idly before the walls of Monte Video is divided by the same party spirit. 800, 97, 1134, 1230, 322, 1524, 409
545, 1449, 23, 427, 400, 1215, 318, 1549, 1104, 416, 1437, 1252, 1556, 1397, 1204
1201, 682, 522, 1348, 412, 1282, The portuguese troops have retired to their own frontiers, but their return depends upon the 1885
1453, 410, 405, 194, 1347, 1355, 121, 1347, 570, 847, 1446, 1348, 1355, 420, 1347
1459, 1547, 110, 522, 891, 952, 1190, 168, 204 404, 1027, 1355, 916, 1441,
1420, 1417, 1262.

Peru Goyeneche has committed the blunder of dividing his forces, advancing towards Bs. Ayres and garrisoning the towns on his route, the consequence has been that before his advanced guard received a check at Tucuman by the Buenos Ayres forces under the commands of Belgrano the people again took the arms and in several towns his garrisons have been cut off. If the government of Bs. Ayres direct the disposable forces they employ idly on the eastern shore of the Plata against the army of Lima, they may in six months recover possession of Peru: the immediate consequences would be the revolution in Lima, the patricids of wealth & influence in that capital are deterred from exciting the mass of the people, composed chiefly of negroes and free mulattoes, lest they themselves should fall a sacrifice to a revolution effected by such means, were they certain of being supported by the army of Bs. Ayres, they might set at defiance the military force of the Europeans, 708, 1115, 915, 961, 1554, 447, 294, 1354, 543, 439, 570, 847, 1446, 886, 1115, 121, 657, 870, 1393, 442, 1425, 1324

The Clergy whose influence here is very great have generally, in the Confessional and by every secret means in their power, opposed the progress of this country in the system of Revolution, and have succeeded, that the government has found it necessary to deprive the Ecclesiastics, of the faculties of its powers and to appoint a Governor of the bishopric sede vacante, the person on whom the Election of the Govt. has fallen was Auxiliary bishop of Santiago & Concepcion. 1215, 1143, 1397, 1348, 108, 463, 1273, 1480, 174, 1394, 140, 535, 522, 1485, 103, 286, 1397, 246, 1341, 317, 1355, 197, 1397, 44, 1427, 1188, 891, 21, 126, 773, 1456, 194, 1179, 291, 344, 416, 154, 101, 658, 1252, 1127, 1166, 586, 410, 1320, 696, 1115.

I beg leave that you Sir, again to repeat to the President my desire to be actively employed, and to assure him that I will serve cheerfully in any station he may think best adapted to call into action the little military knowledge I possess and an earnest desire to promote the welfare and prosperity of my Country.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Your most Obt. Servt.
J. R.

43

The Government of Spanish America, [illegible] is confided to the Council of the Indies. Their authority over the colonies is unlimited, they are the source of all favour, and have the presentation to all Civil and Ecclesiastical appointments, they constitute likewise a Court of Appeal from the decisions of the Audiences.

The Viceroy is commander in chief, Governor, Intendant of the Province [illegible] where he resides — President of the Royal Audience and other Tribunals. As Commander in Chief, he is assisted by a council [illegible] General Officers; and, as Governor, by an Asesor and Legal Counsellors. He assists with great ceremony at the Sessions of the Royal Audiences, which tribunal watches his

conduct, and has a legal control over his actions; and he in turn renders an account to the Council of the Indies of the public acts, and private conduct of the members of the Audience. The Viceroy is not allowed to trade, or to form any connection with the people of his Government; and it was not customary for him to enter any private house. The laws of the Indies, which in theory are calculated to protect the Colonists and Indians from oppression, grant him almost regal powers: but restrain the arbitrary exercise of them by the responsibility attached to any abuse of authority. At the expiration of his office, a commission is appointed to enquire into his past conduct, and all people, including the Indians, are called upon to

proper charges against him, and state any grievance or vexation they may have experienced during his administration. This Residencia as it is called, has become an unmeaning ceremony. The Royal Audiencia, which is the Supreme Court in the Colonies, is composed of the Viceroy who is the President, of a Regent, three Oidores, two Fiscals, a Reporter and an Alguazil.

The law lays both them and their families under the severest restrictions, and the President is enjoined to watch their conduct, and to receive and transmit to the King an annual statement of their acts.

They constitute the last Court of appeal in America. The Viceroy is recommended to consult them in all emergencies of the state; but is left at liberty to act as he thinks proper. Where the authority of the President interferes with their decisions,

they may remonstrate; but his will is executed.

They have the privilege of corresponding directly with the King, and may make any representations they think proper in the conduct of the Viceroy. X

When the Functions of the Viceroy are suspended by sickness or death, the Regent is his legal representative.

Of the Cabildo we have already spoken. Beside the Alcalde of this body there is a Criminal Judge. The City is divided into Barrios or quarters, and each quarter has an Alcalde de Barrio or Justice.

There are likewise Justices of the peace, or Lieutenants of Justice as they are called, whose jurisdiction extends over a certain district of Country. They are accountable to the Governor, and are appointed for two years. ~~They are also~~

~~Regidores~~

45 5

The Military and Clergy claim their Forum,
that is the privilege, which by their
power, gives an Esprit de Corps generally
screens the culprit from justice.

The spirit of litigation pervades all classes,
interrupts the harmony of society and
destroys the confidence and affection
which ought to reign in families and
among near connections. The Lawyers
are a numerous body and the practice
is not as in the United States, an appeal
to impartial Justice; but the
art of multiplying acts and of procras-
tinating decisions until the favour
of the Judge is secured by influence & bribery —

[redacted]

~~[illegible]~~

The Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction belongs exclusively to the King and council of the Indies. The Pope has ceded all his pontifical rights, except that of giving bulls of confirmation, & even these are limited to the candidate presented by the King of Spain.

The Bishop, assisted by a Fiscal, and a Provisor forms the highest Ecclesiastical tribunal; the business is transacted by the Provisor, and the Bishop assist only in cases which concern Ecclesiastics of Rank.

The Ecclesiastical tribunals have cognizance in all cases of a spiritual nature, and which concern Ecclesiastics;

ted in all questions arising from pious donations and Legacies. The Ecclesiastical Fuero or privilege, are extensive; it is sometimes (although very rarely) mixed, as when the Plaintiff is a Ecclesiastic and the Defendant a layman, the cause is tried by a secular Tribunal, and vice versa.

Buenos Ayres has a Chapter consisting of a Dean, Subdean and Chapter, and a certain number of Prebendaries.

The Parishes are served by rectoral Curates and Doctrinal Curates officiate in the Indian settlements and Villages which are divided into Doctrines. The former derive their revenue from the fees of Baptism, Marriage, and Interments, which the latter are forbid to receive, but have an allowance from the Treasury. Priests have been frequently employed in the Administration of the Public affairs, and have had great influ-

=ence over the minds of the people, and a powerful agency in subduing and attach=ing them to the Sovereign of Spain. The Zeal of the Missionaries in this part of South America effected more than the arms of the first adventurers, who after they had conquered the Country, were repeatedly cut off by insurrections of the natives roused to desperation by their rapacity and oppression.

The Conquest of Paraguay by the Jesuits, their large establishments on the Uruguay; the Privileges granted them by the King in order that, they might prove their assertion, that, if left to themselves, and not intruded upon by the Spaniards, and they would subdue the Indians of that extensive Territory, and convert them to the Catholic faith. their rigid Police in detecting and sand=

ing out of their limits any one whom curiosity or interest might have tempted to trespass on their territory. The rapid subjection and conversion of the Tribes on the Uruguay and Paraguay, who were incorporated with the Guarani Indians, their submission to the organisation of the Jesuits, who distributed the day into periods of work, recreation, and devotion, and established, after the manner of the Moravians, a common Magazine for the reception of the produce of their Industry, and dealt out to them according to the number of members in a family, the necessary articles of food and clothing. The frequent attacks made upon them by the unsubdued Tribes, and the depredations committed by the Mamalukes, the Lawless inhabitants of the Portuguese frontier and of Saint Paulo, [illegible]

The jealousy excited by the flourishing state of these settlements about the period of the expulsion of the Jesuits from Europe; the resistance made to the execution of the Decree sent against them from Spain; and the final destruction of their power and confiscation of their possessions, are facts frequently recited of, and in the hands of every one. There is a fund still devoted to the propagation to the Christian faith, and to the payment of Missionaries, who transfer the converted Indians to the Doctrinas, where they are placed under the charge of Doctrinal Curates.

Note * To convert an Indian it was only necessary that he should submit to the forms of Baptism, which he was easily persuaded or bribed to, the obligation to perform all the rites of the Catholic religion is charged in their favour. De Lons speaking of the conversion of the Indians

says that," it is rare that the Indians can be prevailed upon to put himself in the attitude of a penetent. When in the beginning of the ceremony he is desired to kneel, he immediately squats on the ground; and in this posture instead of declaring his sins, he stoutly denies every thing, which the Confessor knowing his practices, wishes him to confess, he must absolutely be convicted of a falsehood, before he will acknowledge himself guilty of any sin; and reduced to this last extremity, he frequently curses those who have given information to the Priest. At Church, he says, they frequently squat on the ground during the performance of Mass, or listen to the old women who ridicule the Priest and the Sermon.

In Peru the Indians are better instructed, and I have seen them attend with devotion

during Mass, and perform scrupulously all the rights of the Catholic faith.

In the Jurisdictions of Moxos and Chiquitos there are some Missionary settlements, where the Missionaries enjoy nearly the same privileges which were formerly extended to the Jesuits; but they are not animated with the same zeal or by the same ambition, and the progress of civilization has been very slow in those countries. The Missionaries are forbidden to exact any compensation from the Indians for the performance of any Catholic rite: but this regulation, like all the excellent and philanthropic laws instituted by the council of the Indies to protect the wretched Indians from the rapacity of the Europeans, is evaded by a shameful traffic in Images, Rosaries and Scapularies, and by receiving

presents, and exacting work from the
Indians, notwithstanding the laws expres-
-ly exempt them from that obligation.
In the first conquest of these Countries,
the Spaniards profited by the feuds
which they found existing among the dif-
-ferent nations of Indians, [redacted]
They threw them into the field
brought [redacted] against each other and
the first adventurers were successively
their allies and Conquerors. —

The Indians were sold into Captivity,
and thousands perished under the
hard treatment of their inhuman
Masters; until the noble efforts
of Las Casas and other friends of hu-
-manity drew the attention of the
Spanish court to their sufferings.
Commissioners were then dispatched
from Madrid to enquire into these abuses,
and to suggest the means of re-
-forming them, and of alleviating the

condition of the Indians. The first at=
=tempt at amelioration was the Repar=
=timientos de Indios, by which they were
divided among the Spaniards, who
had the profits of their labour, without
a right of property in their persons.
Next the Encomiendas by which they
were placed under the superintendance
and protection of the Spaniards.
The Encomendero was bound to live
in the district which contained the
Indians of his Encomienda, to watch
over their conduct, instruct and civilize
them; to protect them from all unjust
persecutions, and to prevent their being
imposed on in bargaining with the
Spaniards. In return for these ser=
=vices they received a tribute in labour,
or produce. The abuse of these pro=
=tecting regulations followed closely their=
= institution.

The Encomiendas were granted to Spaniards who never were in the Country; the Indians were hired out, and the most exorbitant tribute was exacted of them. In order to check these abuses, it was decreed, that the amount of tribute received from an Encomienda should not exceed two thousand dollars, the surplus to be paid into the treasury. They were made inalienable and reverted to the Crown. ~~[illegible]~~. —

All these regulations were found ineffectual to secure the Indians against the rapacity of the ~~[illegible]~~ Encomenderos, and Encomiendas were abolished. The Indians were next committed to the care and protection of the Missionaries and of Doctrinal Curates. The last regulation in their favor gave them Magistrates of their own choice, superintended

however, by a Corregidor to prevent the
Indian Alcaldes from committing
excesses in the exercise of their authority.
In the Viceroyalty of Peru the Indians were
subject to a tribute to the crown, [redacted]
levied on males only, from the age of 18
to fifty. It was collected by the Corregidor
who had the power of exempting such
as were unable, from sickness or bad
seasons to make up the sum,
They could enter into no legal con-
tract or sale without the consent of
the Corregidor, or make any conveyance
of real estate. Their lands were sometimes
seized, and sold to satisfy the tribute,
and in that way only could a transfer
be made or a legal title be obtained for
Indian lands. The Indians were
burthened with a personal service
to the crown, called the Mita, which
was a conscription raised among those

subject to the tribute. in order to worke
the mines of Potosi. Thousands of
these unfortunate people were marched
every year to Potosi and although the
period of service was only eighteen months. They
were attended by a numerous train of friends
and relations, who on the eve of their entering
the mines sang Melancholy Dirges,
and sounding a horne in solemn strains,
mourned over them with all the ceremonies
which they used to evince their sorrow
on the Death of a Relative. Their
wives and Children remained with the Conscripts
who, harrassed by a long march, seldom
resisted more than a year the exessive
labour and noxious air of the Mines.
The Indians of Peru have the appear-
-ance of habitual Melancholy and both
wear mourning for the destruction
of their Incas. According to an
antient prophesy, they expect one day
delivered from their oppressors by a de-

= scendant of the Incas, who is to revive the former glory of the nation. They are pro= hibited from carrying any weapon, or from exercising any trade which might render them familiar with the use of fire arms. This law has been so strictly executed, that the unsubdued tribes, are not dangerous enemies, and for more than a Century have not disturbed the tranquility of the Spanish settlers; and the attempts made by the civilized Indians to recover their former Indepen= dence have been more easily defeated. The Indians hand down from Father to Son the remembrance of their wrongs, and constantly watch some opportunity to revenge them. —

The insurrection in 1778 was the most formidable known since the Conquest, and laid in ruins some of the finest towns of upper Peru. Cuzco was totally destroyed and La Paz lost the greater part of its Inhab=

=tants by famine, whilst it was blockaded by the Indians. Had they known the use of fire arms the whole of the White population of those provinces would have been destroyed, ~~[illegible]~~.

The Revolutionary Government im=mediately on its installation released them from the service of the Mita, which was the most obnoxious to them, and from the Vassalage in which they were held by their Magistrates. The tribute was continued from necessity as it afford=ed a revenue, which could not be relinquish=ed at this period. In 1814 they were relieved from the payment of the tribute, and have taken an active part in favor of the Creoles. ~~[illegible]~~

21
53

The Intendant of the Province is the chief of every branch of the administration of Finance; he is assisted by an Asesor who reports on all questions of Law. The Intendant may reject his decision, and either determine on his own responsibility, or consult another Lawyer. The Tribunal de Cuentas, over which he presides, consists of a Contador-Mayor and a Treasurer, they examine and verify all Accounts. There is moreover a Supreme Court of Finance. This Court of which the Intendant is President, is composed of the Regent of the Royal Audience (Chief Justice) the Contador-Mayor, the Treasurer and the Solicitor of the Tribunal of Accounts. These members

whose their sentences are appealed from do not
assist at the Sessions. The Customs are
collected by an Administrador of the Customs
and a Treasurer. Their accounts are
revised by the Tribunal de Cuentas.

By the Spanish Colonial laws the
duties were levied on the product alone.
The Alcavala was reduced to 5 per
Cent. on every transfer of property and
every contract of Sale. The retail dealers
generally paid a composition, which was
calculated annually on the value of
their Stock.

The Almoxarifasgo is a duty on entry,
and varies from 15 to 5 per Cent. The
Corso is a duty of 2 per Cent applied
to support the Guarda Costas, and the
Consulate 1/2 on imports and exports; this

last goes to defray the expences of the
Consulado or Board of Trade. There is an
excise on distilleries. The Pulperias or
small Grocery Stores pay independant of
the Alcavala a certain sum per Annum,
about 35 dollars for a Licence to retail
Liquors. A fund was formerly derived from
the sale of Lands, and from the Royal
domains. The Treasury receives the rents
of vacant Bishoprics, and Prebendaries, until
the new dignitary is in possession; and the
half Yearly product of all Offices. Notaries,
Attornies, receivers of the Customs, Tax gatherers,
Excise Officers &c. pay a fine to the Crown
in proportion to the value of their Office.
Ecclesiastics pay the amount of the first
month of their Benefice.

All articles seized on account of Illicit trade, after paying the duties, are divided among the Informer, the Intendant, the Captors, and the Crown. The Bull areas and Cock pits belong to the King. A considerable revenue is derived from Stamps the highest cost six dollars, and all deeds and titles, as also all papers signed by the chief Officers of the Administration must be written on this paper. The Instrument cannot be contained in a single sheet the rest is written on stamped paper of a dollar. Contracts and Wills must be

~~The paper ready stamped was sent from Spain and was renewed every four years~~

written on Stamped paper which costs one dollar and a half the sheet. Every document presented in the Courts of Law must be on Stamped paper of a dollar the sheet, and all petitions presented by the poor and by Indians must be written on Stamped paper of the sixteenth of a Dollar.-

The paper ready Stamped was sent from Spain and was renewed every two Years.-

For some time the Treasury received one fifth of the product of the mines, it was afterwards reduced to one tenth.

The Mint affords a further revenue by the exclusive sale of Quicksilver, and by Coining.

The Monopoly of Tobacco is another article of revenue. The Administrador de Tobaccos grants licences to cultivate, and establishes Shops to retail, Tobacco. These Estancos as they are called are kept by persons who receive a certain per Centage on the sales; and who give security to account for all the Tobacco put into their hands. The other Monopolies are not productive. The Post Office is in the hands of Government, and yields a considerable revenue.

The Indians who were subdued paid a capitation Tax. It included all males from 10 to 50 Years of age and amounted to

Salt, candy &c &c

between 5 and 7 dollars. This tribute was collected by the Corregidor who had the power of dispensing with the payment when from indisposition or bad seasons the Indian was supposed to be deprived of the means of acquiring the amount. They could enforce it by the sale of their lands. The only legal purchase of lands belonging to Indians was at these sales; in every other transaction they were considered as Minors: and no contract or bargain was valid untill it received the sanction of the Corregidor.

The Ecclesiastical dominion of the

Spanish American Colonies was yielded by the Bull of Alexander the VI. to the Sovereign of Spain. Tithes were established in America by Ferdinand and Isabella in 1501. and in 1541. Charles the fifth ordained that the proceeds of the Tithes should be divided into four parts. One to be appropriated to the Bishop, another to the Chapter, and out of the other two that they should set aside two ninths for the King, three for building and repairing Churches, and the remaining four ninths for the payment of Curates and officiating Ecclesiastics. This regulation continues in force and the Tithes are farmed and sold in each province to the highest bidder

The sale of the Bulls of the Crusade produce a very considerable revenue. The general Bull is bought by all the Faithful and is divided into classes according to the rank and fortune of the purchaser, Viceroys and their Wives pay 15 dollars. The cheif dignataries Civil, Ecclesiastical and Military and all possed of fortunes exceeding 12,000 Dollars pay 5 dollars. All possesed of fortunes exceeding 6000 dollars pay 1½ all other persons pay 31½ Cents. The virtues of this Bull are various; but the most useful is the dispensation from fasting on fridays and almost all Lent. The Bull do eat Milk and Eggs is likewise divided into Classes

The first costs 6 dollars the second three, the third 1½ and the fourth 38 Cents.—

The Bulls of Composition are bought by those who have obtained money or goods by unlawful means. All classes pay 2½ dollars for this Bull. The Bull for the Dead liberates the Soul or entirely releases the soul from Purgatory. The first Class costs 75 cents and the second 25 cents.

The Bulls of the holy Crusade are printed on very coarse paper and the name of the purchaser is written at full length. *

In the Vicerogalty of Buenos Ayres the ninths, the sale of Bulls and the administration of the confiscated lands of the Jesuits formed a branch of the revenue under the Title of Temporalidades.

See the Table formerly presented to the Secretary of State for an account of the actual state of the finances of Buenos Ayres

1812

The following tables presents the State of the Treasury of Buenos Ayres ~~from the~~ from January 1811. and subsequently to

~~February~~ January 1811

	Remaining in the treasury from	Received	Paid	Balance in hand.
The Temporalidades	8456.4.½	4706.5.¼	9163.2.½	399.7½
Tobacco	12386.6½	11114.4½	12352.1¼	9149.1½
Post Office	1842.3¾	3601.3½	3947.2½	1456.5
Custom house	100571.5½	161.738.6¼	159.088.7½	103241.4¼
Royal Hacienda	21177.4¾	119933.1¼	238.529.1¼	2581.4½
				$ 116868.6¾

~~March~~ Febrary

Temporalidades	1707.4.½	5663.4¼	17814.4¾	4856.4½
Tobacco	2502.7.1¼	14393.1	27033.5¾	12386.6½
Post Office	4274.6¼	1525.7	~~1439.5.6½~~ 2158.1¾	1842.3¾
Custom house	144141.6½	105832.1⅛	149095.6½	108878.1⅛
Royal Hacienda	12.775. ½	235959.7¾	227.557.3½	21.177.4¾
		Balance in hand March 1. 1811		$ 141.141.4.½

to be Continued in General Journal

59 34

[redacted]

A sum =

-mary view of the trade of Spanish America, will complete this exposition of their colonial policy —

It is scarcely necessary to recapitulate all the vexatious Imposts with which the Spanish Government oppressed the internal Commerce of the Kingdom. Of all these the Alcabala was the most destructive of the national prosperity. It consisted of a duty varying from 6 to 4 per cent. upon every transfer of property and every contract of sale.

The Milleres was an excise on the prime necessaries of life, and was generally compounded for with the Government by the Municipalities. In consequence of which the Magistrates established public Magazines at which all taxed Commodities were to be purchased, and such who were found to have any articles of Monopoly not obtained from the magazines were prosecuted with the utmost rigour. All most all these regulations with the royal monopolies of Brandy, Cards, Lead, Saltpetre, Sulphur, Gunpowder, Sealing-wax, Quicksilver, Salt and Tobacco were extended to the Islands when

their pernicious effects were more sensibly felt than in the Mother Country. The trade between Spain and the Colonies was confined to particular Ports in both Countries untill Charles the 5th allowed all his Castilian subjects to fit out expeditions from the principal Ports of Spain; but exacted under the penalties of death and confiscation that they should return to the port of Seville which became the Emporium of the American trade. The personal influence of the Inhabitants increasing with their wealth, they induced the Government to withdraw the permission to Clear out from their ports. In 1720 when the navigation of the river was impeded by sand bars and became unfit to admit Vessels of burthen, the Monopoly with all its advantages was transferred to Cadiz. Twenty seven Vessels well fitted out for the annual supply of Peru, Chile, and Terra firma, and every three years twenty three were dispatched to Mexico and their Northern provinces. The colonists were prohibited from trading with Foreigners or with Spanish Vessels not included in these periodical fleets, and also from trading with each other. Peru could not receive supplies from Mexico,

or Buenos Ayres from terra firma. No Spaniard could interfere with the trade of the interior nor could any Colonist embark his goods to Spain on his own account A Board of Trade established at Seville in the sixteenth Century regulated the extent, apportionment, and distribution of the periodical Cargoes. No person could load or land articles from the return Cargoes without a licence from this board. The Galleons could not touch at any port or break bulk on their passage out or home. The triennial supplies could only be distributed over the Northern Colonies, and the annual Galleons were appropriated to the settlements of the South. These were extremly limited. it being supposed that the Crown had an interest in making the same amount of duties fall upon a small supply of Goods. that the duties might be more easily levied, and that the Colonist might be made to pay the whole. The duties were levied in the form of direct customs on the goods exported, or of fees and dues for Licences or tonnage. An impost was levied on the bulk of the Articles shipped without regard to their nature or value. The Indulto was a duty on the produce imported from the Colo-

nes, and fixed a new by Government every time the fleets returned from America. The declining state of the Spanish manufactories, and the inability of the Mother Country to furnish the necessary supply of goods obliged the Council of Indies to use foreign articles; but they forced them to pass through the hands of the merchants of Seville, and afterwards of Cadiz. The profits of the Monopolists of Cadiz were one hundred and seventy per cent on Goods brought in America, and two hundred and fifty on Goods sold there. The import and export duties were exorbitant. Colonial produce bore a very high price in Spain, and the Colonists purchased the necessary articles with this monstrous accumulation of profits and charges. — Ulloa mentions that in Quito a pound of Iron sold for a Dollar, and one of Steel for 150 Cents. The contraband trade was in consequence very extensive, but although this gave the Colonists a more abundant supply it did not diminish the price the profits of the smuggler always bearing a proportion to the risque of entering the goods, and to the profits of legal commerce. — In 1740 Expeditions separate from the periodical fleets were permitted to sail for the American Colonies to ports formerly debarred all direct intercourse with Spain.

61

The high price paid by these registered ships for licences amounted to a heavy duty on Exports.* In 1748 the permission was extended to other ports, but was soon restored exclusively to Cadiz. In 1764 regular Packet boats were first established, and sailed from Corunna to the chief ports of America: Although permitted to trade their cargoes were limited in extent and to Spanish produce. They were obliged to sail from and return to Corunna. In 1765 the trade of the windward Colonies was laid open to several ports of Spain. The Palmes was committed to a duty of 6 per Cent on exports, and ships were cleared without Licences. The grant which had already included Louysiana was extended in 1770 to Yucatan and Campeachy. In 1766 the Cotton trade was opened to Catalonia, duty free, and in 1778 to the other provinces. In 1774 Colonial produce, duty free, was permitted to be imported into several ports of Spain. In 1778 the ordinance of 1765 was extended to Buenos Ayres, Chile and Peru, and soon after to Santa Fè and Guatimala. This last ordinance granted some abatement of duties to Vessels laden with Spanish produce and to the precious Metals, which had hitherto paid an enormous duty of entrance. The jealously of extending the benefits of their trade to foreigners yielded to the

necessity of supplying the Colonies with slaves. The Spaniards were incapable of conducting this traffic, and for a certain time it was in the hands of a class of Merchants in France. By the Treaty of Utrecht the Asiento was transferred to Great Britain. The Contraband trade which the English mingled with the importation of Slaves, brought on a war and put a stop to this foreign Monopoly. The Slave trade was then transferred to a private Company whose Entrepot was at Porto Rico. The total failure of this Company obliged the Government to take the supply into their own hands. and the incapacity of the Spanish Merchants to conduct this complicated trade forced them to contract with a British Commercial house for an annual supply of three thousand Slaves. For one year the Philippine Company introduced into Buenos Ayres nearly 4000. In 1789 the Slave trade with the Islands and with Caracca, was thrown open to Spaniards and Foreigners. Several exclusive Companies have been formed since the commencement of the 18th Century. but the Philippine company alone survived the restrictions and extravagant duties imposed on their trade by the Government. The profits of this Company

are represented to have been very inconsiderable not exceeding 3 or 4 per cent. On the 12th of October 1778 the Council of Indies issued a decree of free commerce. The Vessels were to belong exclusively to Spaniards and to be of National construction. All the officers and two thirds of the crew to be Spanish. This decree confined the free trade to a few ports: but subsequent regulations extended the privilege to all the chief ports in Spain. The ports of the Colonies were divided into Major and Minor Ports and some privileges were granted to the latter in order to encourage them. The exports from Spain were divided into three classes the Articles of the growth and Manufacture of the Mother Country were called free Articles and paid 9½ per cent duty. The second class consisted of Articles only of the Manufacture of Spain and paid 12½ per cent. The third class included all foreign goods shipped to the Colonies through Spain. They paid 15 per cent entry into Spain; 7½ per cent export and 7 per cent entry into America: and with the maritime Alcabala the Consulate and other charges, the duties amounted to 33⅓ per cent. In 1778 the Exports to the Colonies were made in 170 Ships, were worth 74 Millions of Reales Vellon, and paid 32 Millions duty. The imports of the same year were made in 130 Ships. Valued at 74 Millions and paid nearly three Millions duty. In 1778 the value of Exports was 500 Millions and of Imports 80 ½ Millions

and the duties exceeded 55 Millions In Buenos Ayres the receipts of the Customs. In-

1792	was	$ 336. 532
1792	———	468. 850
1793	———	423. 626
1794	———	409. 984
1795	———	310. 858

The Average of five years was 389. 569 Dollars. It appears that in 1796 the exports to Buenos Ayres Amounted to 2. 853. 944. Dollars and the imports from that port to 5. 058. 882 Dollars. The latter consisted of 874. 593 Ox hides. 16. 752 Horse hides. 24. 436 Skins. 46. 800. Arrobas (25 lb) 771 Arrobas of Vicuña Wool 2254 Arrabas of Common Wool. 291 Guanaco Wool. 11. 89a. Goose Wings. 451. ovo Horns. 3223. Cwt of Copper 4 Cwt of Tin 2541 tanned Hides 222 Dozen of dressed sheep skins. 2128 Cwt of Jerked Beef and 185 cured Pork. Valued at 1. 076. 877 Dollars and the remainder. 2. 556. 304 in Gold and Silver In the year 1802 after the peace of Amiens the receipts in Buenos Ayres was $ 57. 702. Dollars. Shortly after the war broke out between England and Spain the invasion of these provinces by Sir Home Popham opened a new Era in the trade of Buenos Ayres. This officer on his return to England wrote a circular to the Merchants setting forth the extension and lucrative market opened by this conquest to the trade of the British Empire. The want of Markets in Europe at that period

63 42

and the exaggerated picture of Commercial advantages presented by Sir Home Popham occasioned great speculations to be made to the river of Plate and large Convoys of Merchantmen accompanied the expeditions of Sir Samuel Auchmuty to Monte Video and of general Whitelocke to Buenos Ayres. Monte Video during the short time it remained in the hands of the English afforded a very limited Market and the total failure of General Whitelocke's expedition obliged the Merchants to return to England without having made any considerable Sales.

The loss experienced on this occasion was attributed altogether to the defeat of General Whitelocke and an opinion still prevailed among the Merchants in London, that the Markets of Spanish America, if opened to their trade would enable them to bear the loss of the Commerce of the Continent, and be at least equal to that in the United States. After the British troops had evacuated the provinces of La Plata the clamours of the people obliged the Viceroy to open the ports to neutrals. Some Americans traded to the River of Plate; but the high Duties & restrictions discouraged the Commercial Spirit even of our countrymen. The trade was very limited and principally carried on by English

and Spanish Capital covered by the American flag, and the goods were introduced by bribery or by favour of the Viceroy. The revolution in Spain puts a stop to another attempt of the British to obtain possession of these Colonies. The deposition of the Spanish Authorities and the establishment of the Junta in Buenos Ayres again opened the ports of the River Plate to the British flag. Eager to realize their former dreams of Commercial prosperity a large capital was immediately turned into this channel. Entirely ignorant of the consumption of the Country and of the wants of the Inhabitants they overstocked the Market with every article of British Manufacture. The quantity of Merchandize brought to these ports during the first six months was equal to the former consumption of six years, and skaits and warming pans were seen dangling in the shops of Buenos Ayres and Monte Video. The former exorbitant duties continued to be levied with so little regard to justice that frequently the Merchants not only lost the prime cost and freight of the Articles, but had a further sum to pay for duties and several petitions were presented praying to be allowed to abandon the goods in satisfaction of the duties. The Monthly receipts of customs in Buenos Ayres during the year 1810 sometimes exceeded 200.000. Dollars and the aggregate of that year was 2.210.000 Dollars.

From the state of the Market in Buenos Ayres the Merchants in England were ruined by the slowness of the returns and many found it necessary to instruct their Agents to make any sacrifice and to sell at any prices. Sales at Auction to an immense amount were consequently made below the first cost of the Articles. The effect of these sales was to reduce the price of all English Manufactures, and afterwards saw English prints and Calicoes retailed in the shops of Mendoza, a distance of three hundred leagues from the coast, below the retail price in London. The English Agent who received his percentage on the sales, and the Spanish or Native consignee, whom the law obliged him to employ was enriched. But the principals in England failed, [illegible] Frequent attempts were made to prevail upon the Government of Buenos Ayres to simplify the manner of collecting their duties and to establish a Tariff of their own, independant of the absurd and complex regulations of Spain. A more liberal system was with difficulty extorted from them. The Monopolies were abolished. The obligation to employ a Spanish or Native Consignee was done away, and foreign Merchants permitted to enter their Ships and dispose of their Cargoes in their

own name. At the commencement of the revolution the exportation of silver was permitted on payment of 5 per cent duty. It was afterwards prohibited, but the Government finding it impossible to prevent it being smuggled from the Country, again permitted the exportation, encreasing the Export duty to 6 per cent for coined Silver, two per cent for coined Gold, 12 per cent for uncoined Silver and 8 per cent for uncoined Gold, and an additional half per cent on both for the Consulate. The Mines of Potosi have not been worked to any considerable amount since the Revolution. The specie exported is brought chiefly from Chile and amounts to about three Millions of Dollars annually. The British Frigates on this Station are relieved every six Months, and since the year 1810 have carried to England nearly ten Millions of Dollars. This money was shiped partly on account of individuals and partly on that of the British Government. Their Agent in Buenos Ayres, the Consul general, bought the specie at a [redacted] premium, chiefly from the Spanish Merchants, who were anxious to remove their funds from America.

In 1813 the Government published the following Commercial regulations which remained in force for some time.

The Government being anxious to regulate the duties and to establish the order of their collection in the Custom Houses within the territories of the United Provinces, in the manner most convenient to the General interests of Commerce, and do away all former abuses, to proportion the imposts to the natures, necessity and value of the articles of Commerce as far

as the extraordinary demand and present situation of the Treasury will admit, and to furnish the merchants with a clear and exact statement of the duties to be paid, in order that they may in no event be involved in doubt and perplexity, which might intimidate their enterprise or retard the progress of business so important to the public prosperity, have decreed with the previous concurrence of the permanent Council of the Sovereign Assembly. First, from the first day of January of 1814 twenty five per cent shall be collected on all manufactures and foreign Articles, except those hereafter specified, as the only duty of Entry to be calculated on the current Market price, at the time of their extraction from the Warehouse. Secondly, For this purpose the Merchants will present the Invoices with the prices affixed, which the Officers of the Customs shall examine in order to calculate the duties. Thirdly, In case the prices fixed by the Merchant be not regulated on the Market price, the Officer of the Customs shall signify it to him, and should any dispute arise, two Arbiters shall be named one by each party and a third chosen by them in order to decide thereon. Fourthly, Foreign Wines and Brandies, &c. ready made Clothes, boots and shoes, and Furniture 35 per cent. 5th Muslins and Bats - 50 per cent. 6th Crockery and Glass 15 per cent. 7th the following Articles are free of all duty. Quick-silver Machinery and instruments for mining and those of the Sciences and Art

Sciences and Arts, all implements and tools of trade, books and printing presses, as likewise boards and all sorts of lumber. Salt petre. Gunpowder. Flints. Fire Arms and Sabres and swords, for the use of Cavalry. Published in the Ministerial Gazette and signed by Nicolas R. Peña. — Juan. Larrea — Gervasio. Antonio Posadas. Manuel Jose Garcia. Secretary.

The Market of Buenos Ayres continues to be over stocked with English goods. but their Merchants are now better acquainted with the wants of the Inhabitants, Ponchos. rugs. Saddles. bits, Lasos, balls. and in short every article formerly supplied by their domestic Manufactures are now brought from England the Guernsey and Jersey traders being French and German goods, which are preferred to English. & Furniture. Cordage. Canvass. Naval stores, paper. liquors and strong black Tobacco find a ready sale and will bear the duties. — All goods mentioned in the 3d commercial regulations are in constant demand. China and India goods sell well. and the British Merchants resident in Buenos Ayres have lately dispatched three Ships direct to India and China from the River Plate. The Principal returns are Hides. Tallow. Horns. Vicuña Wool. Skins. Feathers Bark. Copper. Gold. and Silver. Hides pay 20 per cent export duty. and all the other Articles except the precious Metals 10 per cent. The Commerce of Chile offers great advantages to the traders to China. and to the

East Indias. It is a well known fact, that specie is almost our only medium of Trade with those Countries which not only deprives the Merchants for many Months of the use of a large sum, but obliges him often to collect Dollars at a premium. whereas if the ports of Chile were open as a scala, the goods suited to that Market such as furniture, and French and German Manufactures, are obtained in the United States at a credit, and the returns received in Chile in Copper and Silver. In Chile the mines of Silver are the most productive ever wrought. The Mineral of those discovered within the last three years in the Province of Guasco yields a most extraordinary product of Silver which compared with that of Potosi is as 40 to 4. It is not ascertained whether these rich Veins extend to any great depths. *

Furs might be obtained if there were any encouragement to collect them. Traders might station small detachments along the coast and on the Islands to procure seal skins an Article of great ~~consumption~~ demand in China and very abundant in these seas. All instruments of Trade and Manufactories are introduced into both Countries free from duty. During the last War between Russia and England, a press was erected in Valparaiso for the purpose of packing Hemps, and large quantities of that article were sent to England. In the event of the intermediate ports, as they are called (puertos intermedios) Arica, Arequipa, &c being opened

Arica

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1 50

to a free trade it is probable that upper Peru will be supplied through that channel. The distance is not so great and the roads are better than those to the Atlantic ports.
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The trade of Chile has hitherto been confined to Lima and Buenos Ayres. The vicerogalty of Lima was supplied with grain from the ports of Valparaiso and Talcahuano, and the returns made in Sugar, fossil Salt, Rice, and Cotton.
The trade between Buenos Ayres and Chile was carried on by Caravans of carts from Buenos Ayres to Mendoza at the foot of the Andes, and from thence on Mules to Santiago. The principal Articles sent across the Continent by the merchants of Buenos Ayres were European dry goods, and the herb of Paraguay. They received in return the Sugar of Lima, Copper and gold and Silver.
In the hands of Freemen, who were sensible of its advantages, and under an enlightened government, Chile from the number and variety of its productions, which yield the raw material of every sort of manufactures has within itself the means of greatness; and from the number of its harbours, and great extent of coast might extend carry on an extensive and lucrative commerce with the intermediate ports, with the vicerogalty of Lima, the Philippine Islands, the East Indies and China. —
The commercial regulations of these countries have been so

* In Potosi a Cayon of ore yields from 14 to 20 marks of Silver 10
and in Guasco 70 Marks have been extracted from a Cayon, but the Average product is 40 marks. —

frequently altered, that it is difficult to say what they now are. This uncertainty discourages commercial enterprise even more than exorbitant duties. —

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Principal Events of the Revolutions

in Chile and Buenos Ayres. -

The accounts of the occurrences at Bayonne, and of the commotions in Spain, found the Colony of Buenos Ayres in a state of ferment, which manifested great disafection to the mother Country. The English, during the time they occupied the country had disseminated the principles which determined the revolution, hastened only by those events. The People of Buenos Ayres, by the reconquest of that capital, and by the defeat of the second formidable invasion, without any assistance from the Mother Country, had acquired confidence in their own Strength. whilst their subsequent intercourse with foreigners tended to wear off that ignorance and superstition, by which Spain sought to secure the allegiance of her Colonies. The Animosity of the Chiefs had already divided the people into factions, General Elio, who had been appointed Military Governor of Montevideo by the Count de Liniers, had secretly excited the Inhabitants of the eastern Shore to revolt, and now accused that Viceroy of treason, refused to obey his orders, and formed a Junta in Montevideo on the model of the provisional governments in Spain. The people were invited to take a part in these dissensions, and were called upon, for the first time, to think and to act. The presence of Mons.r de Chasnè† an Emissary of Napoleon, and of Gorgueches, who came charged with commissions from Murat, from the Junta of Seville, and from the Princess Carlotta, contributed to agitate the public mind, and to foment the Spirit of revolution.

The Government of Spain, believed too lightly the accusations of Gen.l Sealous of all Frenchmen

† This Gentleman fell into the hands of Gen.l Elio, and after being treated in a most barbarous manner, was sent Prisoner to Cadiz.

Elio against the Viceroy Liniers, and superceded the only man whose popular Character and services to the state, could for a time have preserved the Colony from revolt. On the arrival of the new Viceroy Cisneros, Liniers was strongly solicited to retain the command the military offered to support him and hopes were entertained by the Patriots, that the injustice, and impolicy of the Spanish Government would drive over to their party, this able and popular Leader. but Liniers who appears to have acted throughout with Chivalric honor, disappointed their hopes by privately withdrawing himself from the solicitations of his friends, and the persecution of his Enemies. Some frenchmen resident in Buenos Ayres were seized, and put to the torture by the ruthless Alzaga; but no traces were discovered of a conspiracy in favor of France or any grounds of accusation against that unfortunate Gentleman.

Cisneros his successor did not possess the Character or Abilities necessary to repress the revolutionary Spirit of the people of Buenos Ayres. Awakened to a just sense of their sufferings, they deliberated on the means of delivering themselves from an oppression, now become intolerable. They set a just value on the unequal representation extorted from the fears of the mother Country, and viewed with equal indifference the appeals to their loyalty and Generosity, and the promises of future privileges, and future advantages. They compared them to a man who stretched on a bed of sickness calls upon his slave to raise and assist him; but at the same time orders him not to cast off his Chains.

It is seldom that any bold project is adopted at the commencement of a revolution. To reconcile all parties, and to obtain a favorable result by moderate and temporising measures is the first endeavour, and generally the ultimate view of the revolutionist: and those who would have shrunk from the idea of striking a decisive blow, and depending upon their own strength and exertions for the success of their enterprize, entered eagerly into the plan, proposed by the most artful, to favor the pretensions of the Princess Carlotta, and to deliver the Vicerovalty into her hands; whilst by imposing on her certain restrictions, and stipulating for certain privileges, they might retain the administration in their own powers, augment the strength and resources of the country, and finally be enabled to remove the Princess and assert their independence.

The court of Brazils had injudiciously encouraged the revolution of Buenos Ayres. The party of the princess, in order to obtain possession of that Vicerovalty, and the ministerial party, although opposed to her pretensions, hoped to find a pretext in the troubles of Buenos Ayres to seize on the eastern shore of the river of Plate, the most fertile populous, and valuable district of the Vicerovalty. The british Envoy at Rio de Janeiro* secretly encouraged this project, in order to secure to great Britain the same privileges in the commerce of that river the only outlet of the rich productions of upper Peru, as they already enjoy in the Brazils. The British Admiral† on that station, on the contrary, warmly and openly espoused the cause of the Princess, and offered to convoy her to Buenos Ayres. This dangerous plan fortunately proved

*Lord Strangford. †Sir Sidney Smith. The dispute on this subject was carried so far that Sir Sidney was recalled by the British government.

abortive from the tenacity of the Princess, who insisted upon being accompanied by a body of Portuguese troops, a condition to which the revolutionists would not agree. From the moment the imprisonment of Ferdinand was known in Brazil, the Princess Carlotta aspired to the possession of her brother's dominions in North and South America, and circulated a manifest setting forth her right, and insinuating, that even in the event of her brother recovering his liberty and returning to Spain, her claim ought to obtain, that he would return a frenchman in principle, and involve the Americas in french alliances, and french wars; whereas the acknowledgement of her title would be attended with all the advantages of independence. This public document was followed by private agents, and every means resorted to, that application and intrigue could suggest. These exertions were not attended with much success, some partizans were gained among the nobility and clergy; but too few and insignificant to effect a revolution in her favor. The failure of the first plan, obliged the leaders of the revolution to adopt more decisive measures. Their intentions were discovered, and it was expected, that the Viceroy would use every means in his power to frustrate them. Their danger obliged them to act with promptness and resolution, and the first attempt of the Viceroy to check them, was followed by an open declaration on their part. he was peremptorily ordered to resign his command, and after a short struggle and a vain appeal to the people, was obliged to comply. Immediately upon his resignation a meeting of the principal

Inhabitants was held in the town hall of Buenos Ayres. In this assembly, the Bishop, whose influence had hitherto been unbounded, ventured to oppose the torrent of public opinion; but his authority was no longer owned, and his assertion, that the last Spaniard that remained in America, should by right govern the country, excited such universal indignation, and drew upon him such unqualified abuse, that he retired to his palace confounded and dismayed.

The Assembly still wishing to temporize, created a provisional junta and named the Ex-Viceroy president; but the people, who had felt their power, refused all compromise, and on the 25 of May 1810 a junta was elected from the Creoles of Buenos Ayres, and took possession of the command amidst the universal acclamations of the People.

Every exertion was immediately made to extend the revolution to the interieur provinces; and troops were dispatched to favor the patriots in Peru and Paraguay. The Ex-Viceroy and Fiscal endeavoured to counteract their plans, and maintained a correspondence with the Spanish Authorities in those provinces. As soon as this was known to the government, they were summoned to the fort, and conveyed directly on board an English Cutter chartered to carry them to the Canaries. The royal audience was at the same time dismissed for contempt of the Junta, and the Cabildo chiefly composed of Europeans, having in a secret meeting shown allegiance to the Regency of Spain, the members were banished

+ He was a very weak and ignorant man. The government discovered that he held correspondence with Spain and he shortly after died suddenly.

and it was declared by law, that no European could hold any public office under the government of Buenos Ayres.

The Count de Liniers who had retired to Cordova, presuming too much on his influence with the soldiery, and urged on by the Bishop of Cordova, assembled a small force and determined to oppose the progress of the revolution in the interior. Before he had time to strengthen himself, his party was attacked and totally defeated by the troops of Buenos Ayres, and he with the Bishop, the Governor of Cordova and four of the principal officers fell into the hands of the victors. Whether from the personal enmity of his judges, or from fear of his popularity and extensive influence, which made it equally dangerous, at that early stage of their revolution, to banish or to imprison him, it was resolved in the Junta, that Liniers and his accomplices should be put to death. They were met on the road to the Capital by a military Commission, and were shot, after being confessed by the Bishop, who was forced to destroy the execution of his friends.

The revolution of Chile was effected about this period. It partook in some degree of the distinctions which mark the character of that people. The Creoles of that Kingdom saw and rejoiced in the views of Buenos Ayres, desired, but dared not follow their example. When the Viceroy & Captain General on some slight denunciation, arrested three of the principal inhabitants of Santiago & two of them were sent to Lima, but the third, a native of Santa Fe in the vicesoyalty of Buenos Ayres, stained himself sick, and from the Castle of Valparaiso, where he was

& Rosa, Ovalle, and Vera

confined, incited the Chileneans to reclaim their countrymen, and to protest against this act of oppression, which he represented as a prelude to a general persecution of the Creoles. They gathered courage from despair, and addressed a strong remonstrance to the Capt. General who alarmed by this spirit, recalled those gentlemen. This act of resolution on the one part, and of weakness on the other decided the revolution. Encouraged by this success, they declared themselves openly; in the hopes of Freedom even family feuds were forgotten, all the Creoles of distinction united, deposed the Captain General, and instituted a provisional government, which acknowledged and acted in the name of the Authorities of Spain. They soon however assumed a bolder tone and a Congress was assembled, which governed in the name of Ferdinand the seventh. On the day of its installation, an attempt was made by some Europeans to restore the antient government, an engagement took place in the principal square, which ended in their total defeat. The Captain General and the royal audience being implicated in this conspiracy were banished and retired to Lima.

The Expedition to upper Peru was conducted by a commission from the Junta of Buenos Ayres, the Indians were emancipated from the most obnoxious services, and the auxiliary army, hailed by this unfortunate people and by the Creoles as their deliverers soon occupied the whole territory of the Viceroyalty: and the towns were invited to elect deputies to represent them in the Congress about to be held in the Capital.

In the mean time the dissensions, natural to a government composed of one numerous body, broke out, and produced those factions, which have since divided their councils and distracted the state. They originated in the personal animosities of the President of the Junta, and of the Secretary of State, a man of violent impetuous temper, ardent in his love of liberty, and too conscious of his superior abilities to brook contrast. As the Secretaries had a right to deliberate and vote in the Junta, he opposed the President in all his views, and took advantage of a frivolous occurrence to expose and mortify him. At a supper given by the Officers of the regiment of Patricians, of which the President was Colonel, one of them took from the table a crown which ornamented the desert, and placed it on the head of the President's wife, who in her turn placed it on the husband's, when an Officer cried out "long live the Emperor of the South." The Secretary who witnessed this childish scene, mentioned it the next morning in the Junta, exaggerated it into a discovery of the President's ambitious intentions, and excited in it so strong a degree the fears of the Republicans that a decree was immediately passed, depriving him of all distinction except in his seat in the Junta.

On the arrival of the Deputies from the provinces, they were admitted into the provisional government, and the spirit of faction was fomented by this accession. As they had been admitted contrary to the opinion of the Secretary, who contended that it defeated the intention of their election which had been to form a deliberative body, the President found no difficulty to procure his banishment. He

was sent on a mission to England, and died on his passage.
The members of the Opposition unable to resist the Presidents party in the Junta, determined to establish a Club in the City, and by uniting the most factious of the military and citizens controul the measures of Government. Aware of the probable effects of this combination against him, the President had recourse to the most violent and unjustifiable measures to defeat it. On the morning of the fifth of April 1810 the Patricians and two other Regiments devoted to his interest, were drawn up in the principal Square of the city; the Corporations were assembled, and a petition was presented to them, from two or three hundred peasants, who in the name of the people demanded the banishment of the Members and Officers most inimical to him. The Corporations awed by the military debue tantly complied, the obnoxious persons were banished, the Club abolished, and a number of Citizens thrown into prison.
This impolitic measure by establishing the preponderance of the Military over the civil power, paved the destruction of liberty, and gave rise to those violent changes, which have so frequently retarded the progress of the revolution. The Leaders of the Army of Peru, which was now encamped on the frontiers of the Viceroyalty of Lima, declared against this revolution, and threatened to march against its authors. It was thought a necessary measure of precaution to introduce discord among these Chiefs, and dissensions were fomented to a degree that occasioned the entire defeat of that army at the battle of Hualgui, where the Royalists and Patriots mutually

accuse each other of breaking an armistice. The news of this disaster, which well nigh proved the ruin of their cause, was received with joy by the reigning party in Buenos Ayres, who only saw in it the destruction of a formidable rival.

The Government of Bs. Ayres had neglected to occupy the important place of Montevideo at the commencement of the revolution, and the Spanish Marine which with equal oversight, had been permitted to leave Bs. Ayres, rendezvoused there, and commenced hostilities against the Junta, - they harassed the commerce of the rivers, and blockaded the ports of Buenos Ayres. +

On the arrival of General Elio with the appointment of Viceroy and Captain General of these provinces, he withdrew the blockade and made an attempt to obtain possession of the command first as Viceroy, and afterwards as President of the Junta. His proposals

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+ Whilst the blockading Squadron was off the City, a circumstance occurred, which was, nigh being deemed a miracle by both parties. A strong gale of wind from the North west drove the water out of the river, so that the ships in the outer roads, seven miles from the town were left dry, and a sortie of the Garrison was in contemplation, to destroy the Enemy's squadron: before it could be carried into execution, the wind shifted, when the waters returned with great impetuosity, and in an instant filled the bed of the river. A similar Phenomenon is said to have occurred before, when Rivers as low as ~~Europe~~ Buenos Ayres was left entirely dry, and horsemen are said, to have passed over to Colonia on horseback. —

were treated with contempt by the government of Buenos Ayres, and he shortly after dispatched a Squadron to the Paraná in order to destroy some vessels belonging to Buenos Ayres, stationed there for the protection of the trade. This was effected, and the blockade renewed. The british Admiral did not consider the authority of the Viceroy sufficient to establish a legal blockade, and stationed a frigate at Buenos Ayres to protect the entrance of british vessels. The blockade became therefore of no effect, and the Squadron was employed in ravaging the Coast; but returned from time to time to bombard the City. During these attacks, the Europeans in Buenos Ayres were harassed and mortified, the unmarried were banished, and those who remained were subjected to the most vexatious and humiliating regulations.

During these transactions, the Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore of the river of Plate had been excited to revolt against the European Authorities in Montevideo. As Genl. Elio was particularly obnoxious to them, this was easily effected. They rose in mass, defeated the Royalists at Pedras and drove them within the walls of Montevideo. A small regular force was immediately dispatched to aid their operations, and the town was invested by land.

The Expedition to Paraguay had failed, and had served only to irritate the Inhabitants of that province; and although they shortly after expelled their European Magistrates, and established a provisional Junta, they constantly refused all connection with B. Ayres.

General Elio alarmed at the spirit manifested by the People

of the eastern Shores, and pressed by a besieging army, sent Deputies to Buenos Ayres, to solicit peace, offering to retire himself to Spain, and stipulating that, the town of Montevideo should send a deputy to the Congress, provided it remained independent of the Junta. The news of the revolution in Paraguay which was received at the same time, prevented the govern.t of Buenos Ayres from closing with these proposals, Ignorant of the intentions of the Chiefs of that province, and presuming that, they would unite with them in the common cause, they insisted on the unconditional surrender of Montevideo. Gen.l Elio then applied for assistance to the court of Brazils, and that Cabinet, in hopes to realise their favorite project, and to obtain possession of Montevideo, immediatelly granted his request, and five thousand men were ordered to pass the frontiers. In consequence of this measure the situation of Buenos Ayres became alarming. From the state of their military discipline, the defeat at Hualgui proved a total dispersion of that Army; and the forces of Lima successively occupied La Paz, Potosi, and Cochabamba; the Portuguese troops advanced rabidly to the relief of Montevideo, and great discontent reigned in the Capital. In this state of affairs it was thought advisable that, the President should proceed to Peru, in order to collect the scattered ~~forces~~ forces, and by his presence restore the confidence of the provinces not yet occupied by the Enemy. He consented to this arrangement, and appointed to command

the garrison, during his absence, those men who had served him in the revolution of the fifth of April, and of whose attachment and fidelity he felt secure.

He had scarcely left the Capital, when these tools of party were gained over by the opposite faction, and permitted them to assemble, and in the name of the people, to depose him; they then named an executive of three, and declared the Assembly of deputies a deliberative body. In their eagerness to change, they neglected to secure themselves against the abuse of power; and entrusted to the Executive the right of enacting their own laws, and directed them to frame a Constitution for their own government. To an Executive furnished with such powers, the Legislative Assembly proved an intolerable restraint, and a pretext was soon found to dissolve that body.

About this period a similar revolution took place in Chile, the Congress was violently dissolved by the military, and an Executive established. The members who retired to the province of Concepcion excited their constituents to protest against this proceeding, and to take up arms in defence of their rights; both parties met in force on the banks of the Maule; both however preferred intrigue to blows; and Concepcion destitute of resources shortly after submitted to the Capital.

The first act of the new government of Buenos Ayres was, to conclude a treaty with General Elio, by which it was agreed on the one part, that, the troops should be withdrawn from the seige of Montevideo, and that place, including the eastern side of the River of Plate

to remain under the Spanish authorities; and on the other hand, the trade of Buenos Ayres should not be molested, and that, the portuguese forces should withdraw to their own frontiers On the part of Buenos Ayres the conditions of this treaty were faithfully executed, and the territory of the Eastern Shore was immediately evacuated by their troops. The Commander of the portuguese, who had been made a party in the treaty without being consulted, declared that he could not act untill he received instructions from his court, and proceeded to fortify himself in Maldonado. General Elio, who had discovered the intentions of the Court of Brazils, had been induced to conclude this treaty, from fear of this dangerous ally. After the delay of some months, failed in this attempt to obtain possession of Montevideo, without which it would be impossible to retain any part of the Eastern Shore, they withdrew their forces, and defrayed the expence of the expedition, by driving off in their retreat immense herds of Cattle. The People of the Eastern Shore, who dreaded the vengeance of the Royalists to which they had been shamefully abandoned, deserted their houses, drove off their cattle, and followed their Chief to the other side of the Uruguay.

Shortly after the return of the Army from Montevideo, an unsuccessful attempt was made by the Regiment of Patricians to effect a revolution, and to reestablish their favorite chief. Although abandoned in the moment of Execution by the Officers, who

had excited the revolt, and left without a Leader, they were not reduced untill after a bloody conflict.

As soon as it was known in Spain that, Gen.l Elio had concluded a treaty with Buenos Ayres, he was recalled, and his Successor Gen.l Vigodet, who arrived with reinforcements, recommenced hostilities against the revolutionary Government. The Command of the army of Buenos Ayres was entrusted to the President of the Executive who crossed the river at Santa Fé, and again invested Montevideo.

A Government so constituted as that of Buenos Ayres, without restrictions, and without responsibility, could not long command the confidence of the People or exist in harmony. The People were oppressed, and the Rulers entirely occupied with their private animosities and disputes. These dispensions as usual soon extended their effects to the Armies. Before Montevideo the Inhabitants of the eastern Shore separated their force from those of Buenos Ayres, and the latter caballed against their Commander in chief, dismissed him, and appointed one of their own choice. The Europeans saw in these disorders a favorable opportunity to effect a counter revolution, and a plan was formed to obtain the watch word by surprising the patrole, to seize on the barrack, and favored by a descent from the Squadron of Montevideo get possession of the City. This Conspiracy was discovered when on the point of being carried into execution by a Slave who overheard one of the Conspirators, several mornings successively exercise his Office and

and impatience at the delay of the Squadron, which was detained in Montevideo by a strong headwind (S.W. wind). Thirty of the prin=cipal Conspirators were tried, and executed†. The Execution of these men was marked by Scenes, similar to those of the French revolu=tion. Some scattered money to the crowd, others rushed forward to steep their handkerchiefs in the blood of the victims, and Women of the first rank exulted in their death with loud acclamations and cheers. When the Government published a proclamation of Amnesty, the people assembled tumultuously, surrounded the government house, and demanded more blood, and fresh victims. Nor is this conduct to be wondered at, if we contemplate the horrible intentions of the Conspirators, who had determined to stop the progress of the revolution, by a general massacre of all the male Creoles in Buenos Ayres.

The discovery of this plot startled the Government and people from their dream of Security; but like those who dwell unconcerned on the ashes of a volcano, which may burst into a flame, and in a moment sweep them from the earth, and are only sensible of their danger during an eruption; they soon lost their fears for the general safety, and returned to their factious disputes. Deputies from the provinces had arrived to form a Congress at Buenos Ayres; but differences arising between them and the Executive, the assembly was dispolved at the first session.

The remains of the army of Peru had retired before the victorious

† The Estates of these men, who were among the most opulent in Buenos Ayres were restored to their Children —

troops of Lima, untill the want of means to continue their retreat forced them to make a stand at Tucuman; an obstinate Engagement ensued, which by the active cooperation of the inhabitants of Tucuman, ended in the total defeat of the Limeneans, who retired to Salta, which was afterwards taken by assault. The Government wholly engrossed by party dissensions, neglected the affairs of the State, and the army of Peru, for want of the necessary succours could not advance and profit by these victories. The discontents now became general, and the parties in opposition to the Govt. seized the opportunity, united, and effected a revolution by the usual resort to the military, who again became the instrument of faction. A new Executive was nominated, and succours were sent to the army of Peru, which enabled it to advance, and to drive once more the Limeneans from the territory of Buenos Ayres. In the mean time, other deputies had arrived from the provinces, the Congress met, and assumed the title of the Sovereign assembly, with the sole right of making laws; and declared the Executive responsible to them for its acts. Possessed with the wildest theories, every Member of the Sovereign Assembly thought himself qualified to legislate; and it was presumed an easy task to promote the prosperity of the Country, and to secure the happiness of their fellow Citizens, by laws and institutions, and laws were enacted with such precipitation, their expediency, and even the possibility of their execution so little consulted that, it frequently became necessary to repeal on one day what had been declared the law of the land, but the day before..

When the war broke out between the United States and Great Britain the English Commanders on this station took advantage of the state of the country, and regardless alike of the rights of the Government of Buenos Ayres, and of the Spanish Authorities in Montevideo declared the river of Plate belligerent waters, and captured the American Ships which anchored in the outer road of Buenos Ayres. On the coast of Chile and Peru great depredations were committed on our Commerce by the Privateers of Lima, even the Whalers so long protected by treaty and Custom, were harassed and plundered: latterly this was carried to a still greater extent, and the new and extraordinary doctrine advanced to justify these pieces of piracy that, "they were the allies of Great Britain and therefore had a right to capture the Ships of her Enemies". In some instances they divided the responsibility and the spoil, American Ships were cut out of the ports of Chile by the Lima privateers, and carried off by the English. The dissensions which had existed between the provinces of Santiago and Conception, afforded an opportunity to invade the latter province; The Viceroy of Lima united the garrisons of Valdivia and Chiloe, and this force, aided by the treachery of some European Officers in the service of Chile, easily obtained possession of the port of Talcahuano, and of the town of Conception, and being joined by several regiments of Militia Cavalry, soon occupied the whole province, and arrived with a formidable Army on the banks of the river Maule, which separates Santiago

from Conception. Here their victorious career was checked, repulsed in an attempt to cross the river, and afterwards defeated in a general engagement, they retired to the town of Chillan, where they fortified themselves; whilst a small body of the troops of Sant.o marched upon Conception and Talcahuano, and recovered possession of those important places.

Soon after this event, the Army of Buenos Ayres met with serious reverses; the General of the Army of Peru was led on by false intelligence from pretended deserters to attack the army of Lima, althó posted in a very advantageous position, and was defeated with the loss of all his artillery. Instead of retreating to some strong post with which that country abounds, and preserving the remains of his army, 'intill he could receive reinforcements from B. Ayres, eager to repair his losses he risked a second engagement, under these unfavorable circumstances, in which his army was routed, and entirely dispersed.

The place of Montevideo had received supplies, and reinforcements from Spain, and althoughs the garrison had been defeated in a Sortie against the besieging army, it was apprehended that, a junction might be effected at Santa Fé of the victorious army of Lima, with the disposeable force in Montevideo, especially as that Squadron commanded the river of Plate. In Chile the dispersions of the Chiefs paralysed the movements of their victorious army; the Enemy gathered strength, and assisted by reinforcements from Lima, recovered

the province of Conception, and threatened the Capital.
In this disastrous state of affairs the party in possession of the
Government of Buenos Ayres saw a favorable opportunity
to consolidate their power; They represented it to be impossible
that a government so composed should possess the Energy
secrecy and dispatch adequate to save the state in this cri-
tical and perilous situation, and that it had become
absolutely necessary to reduce it to a more simple form.
After some debate and a good deal of intrigue, by which
the Military were induced to declare in favor of the reform,
the Government was vested in a supreme Director to be assisted
by a council. The Assembly was prorogued during the pleasure
of the Director, to be represented, during its vacation by a
Committee. The General who had commanded in Peru, was
superceded, and orders given to his successor to collect the
scattered remains of that army, and to fortify himself in Tucu-
man; whilst they determined to devoted their whole force against Montevideo.
Aware of the importance attached by Great Britain to the trade
of these colonies, and expecting to derive great advantages, from
opposing the commercial spirit of that nation to the
jealous colonial policy of Spain, they sent an agent to
London, and were willing, at that time, to secure the
favorable mediation of that Court by granting any
privileges, and declared that, Buenos Ayres would

prefer to be governed by a foreign Prince, than to submit unconditionally to Spain. The same policy induced them to yield to the solicitations of the English Minister at Rio de Janeiro, who was desirous of adjusting the differences between Montevideo and Buenos Ayres, and had expressed a wish that, the latter should acknoledge the Regency of Spain, accept the constitution, and send deputies to the Cortes. Commissioners were sent with proposals to Montevideo; but the Viceroy, who now contemplated the approaching fall of Buenos Ayres, and considered this measure as a proof of their weakness, refused to receive or treat with them. This result had been foreseen by the Government of Buenos Ayres, and great exertions had been made to fit out a Squadron which might give them the comonand of the River, Some stout Merchant vessels had been purchased, which were armed from the batteries of B.s Ay and Ensenada, and manned by foreigners; and this fleet, immediately on the return of the Commissioners, appeared off Montevideo. No alarm was excited in that town by this measure; it was supposed that armed merchantmen would prove an easy conquest to national ships, and a Squadron was dispatched to attack and destroy them. The event did not justify this opinion of their superiority, to their astonishment and dismay the national Squadron was entirely defeated, two only escaped into Port and the remainder fell into the hands of the Patriots. The Viceroy

finding himself pressed by superiour forces both by land and water, now condescended to solicit a peace, which he had, but a few days before, rejected with contempt. but the government of Buenos Ayres retaliated his conduct towards them, and refused to receive his commissioners, or to open his dispatches. He was soon after reduced to the necessity of treating with the general of the besieging army It was agreed that the Government of Buenos Ayres should acknoledge the Regency and send Deputies to Spain. on this condition the Place of Montevideo was to be given up, the garison to be sent to Spain, and two thousand men to march out with their arms, field pieces, and ammunition and to be encamped, until the conditions were carried into execution. Whilst this treaty was pending, disputes arose between the troops of the Garrison, and the armed citizens, who were violently opposed to the ~~violation~~ Capitulation. The Viceroy finding it impossible to suppress these commotions, which threatened the destruction of all parties, ordered the gates to be thrown open, and admitted the Army of Buenos Ayres. The two thousand men were permitted to march out with the honors of war and it was at first supposed that the articles of the Capitulation would be adhered to. They were soon undeceived, the General of the besieging army published a proclamation in which he declared that, having entered the town before the

Capitulation had been signed by either Party, exposed to a mise de guerre, and to the risk of being attacked, he considered the Place of Montevideo to have been surrendered at discretion to the arms of Buenos Ayres. The Viceroy was furnished with a vessel to convey him and his suite to Spain, but the garrison consisting of six thousand men, were sent Prisoners of war to Buenos Ayres. The persons and property of the inhabitants were respected. To the honor of Buenos Ayres, they have used their victories with moderation, notwithstanding the animosities which exist between the two parties, the Royalist, called by their opponents Saracens, and the Patriots, and that the former have frequently disgraced themselves by massacres in cold blood, and by the barbarous treatment of their prisoners, and that, there existed in Montevideo a band of Officers who had made a vow to give no quarter to the Insurgents, and who wore a badge of their infamy, the latter have never sullied their arms by these sanguinary measures, not even in retaliation.

The Place of Montevideo had been defended with the utmost obstinacy for nearly four years, and not less than seven thousand persons perished during the siege, principally by disease and famine. The Victory acquired seven thousand stands of arms, five hundred pieces of Artillery, and a profusion of warlike stores. An amicable arrangement was made with the Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore, and the troops were withdrawn in order to reinforce the Army of Peru.

It has since been determined to destroy the fortifications of Montevideo, which are formidable from the situation of the place on a very narrow peninsula. It may be considered the Key of the River of Plate, and consequently of the whole Vicerozalty, and once in the hands of an Enemy, especially of a maritime power, they could not hope to wrest it from them, nor could they expect to defend it long against a regular attack. Moreover in the present unsettled state of the country, it would prove a powerful Engine of faction, and the military Governor of Montevideo might dictate to the government of Buenos Ayres, or involve the country in a civil war. The Artillery and Stores are to be removed to Tucuman, to which point the armies will retreat in the event of a formidable and irresistible invasion obliging them to abandon the coast.

The American army, which had advanced as far as Salta retired precipitately upon Potosi, on receiving intelligence of the fall of Montevideo. The Commanders of that army led on by the hope of forming a junction with the troops of Montevideo, and of investing Buenos Ayres, in two instances, abandoned the strong positions of Potosi, which secured to them the possession of Peru, and advanced towards the plains of Tucuman. The first had weakened his army by leaving garrisons in the towns, and particularly in

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It has been the Policy of Spain to foment the jealousy and hatred which ex[ists] they may be of one nation, and districts of one province. The inhabitants, profiting by this, may have led Americans to slaughter their countrymen, [illegible] of the natives of Chicuito & Cuzco, those of Chile of the order, [illegible]

Cochabamba, the capital of the most fertile, and populous of the interiour provinces. The present Commander to avoid the fault of his predecessor, to which he attributed his defeat at Tucuman, left his rear and flank unprotected, exposed to the attacks of the Indians and Cavalry of Cochabamba, which harass his retreat. A short time previous to these events, the United States Frigate Essex had been attacked at anchor in the bay of Valparaiso, within pistol shot of the shore, and captured, by the British Ships Phoebe and Cherub. The Essex was disabled before the attack by the loss of her main top mast, and being armed only with Carronades, the Enemy were enabled by the advantage of their long guns to keep up a destructive fire, out of the range of her shot, under these disadvantageous and hopeless circumstances, the defence made for two hours and a half against such very superiour force reflects the highest honor on the officers and crew of that Ship, and leaves to the victors only the disgrace of an outrage on the rights of a neutral Port. After this action the Commander of the British Squadron proceeded to Santiago, and proffered his mediation to adjust the difference between Lima and Chile, & it appeared that he was authorised by the Viceroy, his offer was accepted, and it was agreed on the one part that, the troops of Lima should evacuate the territories of Chile, and on the other to acknowledge the Regency and Cortes, to send Deputies to Spain, and to submit to the decision of the Mother Country. This arrangement ex-

existed

= isted between people who hated each other, even although the mountaineers the enemies of the inhabitants of the Plains, Creoles of Cuzco against the creoles of La Paz, and their armies in Peru were composed

from the fears of the government of Chile, was disapproved by both parties, the Viceroy refused to ratify the treaty. The former leaders of the revolution, who had been betrayed into the hands of the Royalists, had escaped, and returned to Santiago, where they were received with Enthusiasm by the people and restored to the Command; when hostilities were renewed with great activity on both sides.

~~Chile from its peculiar local advantages is of the~~ ~~first importance to the Revolution of South America the extraordinary fertility of the soil~~, The richness and variety of the productions Chile its comparatively concentrated population, and a military organisation, which has grown out of a system nearly resembling the feudal render its possession of infinite importance to both parties. From a natural consequence of that system great and powerful families divide the state into violent and irreconcileable factions, and their dissensions have already so weakened the Kingdom that, it will probably fall into the hands of the Royalists, especially as the Majority of the Clergy, and Nobles, are opposed to the Revolution.

In Buenos Ayres there are no Nobles, and ~~as to the~~ most of the Clergy are Americans, and in favor of the revolution: and the government wisely abolished the Alternative and other privileges which gave an undue

+ From their dread of being deprived of their vast possessions, and of a general reform.

influence to the European Trans. +

The Creoles of Lima have been deterred from following the example of their neighbours, by the large proportion of Blacks and people of Colour in that Viceroyalty. To effect a revolution it would be necessary to arm them against the Europeans, and it is scarcely probable that, after feeling their own strength, they would lay down their arms, and again submit to their Creole Masters. The Limeneans who are, perhaps, the most enlightened people of South America, wait the approach of an auxiliary force, to declare themselves.

The Affairs of Buenos Ayres are in a more prosperous state than they have been for some time past. The Capture of Montevideo has put into their hands a valuable armament, and abundance of warlike stores. The present state of their Armies is respectable in discipline and force (see Table No. 2); and the Evacuation of the Interior Provinces opens a Channel to trade and adds greatly to their resources.

It is the policy of the reigning party to concentrate the power in Buenos Ayres, a design, which whilst it favors their ambition enables them to call into action all the resources of

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+ In Buenos Ayres the Enthusiasm of Liberty pervades all classes. The negroes although but a small proportion of the population, are universally in favor of the revolution; and such of them, who have have been liberated on condition of serving the State, and are organised into Regiments, under the name of Liberti, have performed prodigies of valour.

the Country,. The Parties opposed to them, which consist of Men of Abilities and influence, hold out to the interior provinces, their desire of a federal Union, and of an equall representation, on which those provinces insist as the condition of their union with Buenos Ayres. These Parties found their hopes on the general Sentiment of the People, eager to change and always expecting something advantageous from a new order of things, and on a corrupt Soldiery accustomed to pull down and set up Governments as their interest or caprice dictates. They entertain likewise some expectations from the turbulent Character of the Chiefs of the Eastern Shore of the River of Plate,. After the troops had evacuated their territory by virtue of an amicable arrangement with their Leader, he returned the Commission which he had received from B.s Ayres, declaring that, he derived his authority from the free election of the People of the Eastern Shore, who were willing to be the allies, but not the vassals of B.s Ayres. Three thousand men were sent to reduce them, but from the nature of the Country, and of the troops which are a well mounted cavalry, it will be extremely difficult to accomplish it. In this struggle to be independent of B.s Ayres, they follow the example of Paraguay, which from the beginning of its political career to its present Experiment of two Consuls and a National Assembly, of one thousand

Representatives has constantly preserved itself free from the influences of Buenos Ayres.

Such have been the principal events of the revolution, and such was the state of this part of South America, when intelligence was received of the restoration of Ferdinand to the throne of Spain. In all the changes which have taken place in Buenos Ayres and Chile, they have invariably held out to the world their allegiance to Ferdinand, in whose name and behalf their Governments have been instituted and have pretended to act. Some acts of sovereignty have however been exercised by both, and Buenos Ayres has coined and issued money with the arms of the Republic.

Hopes were entertained that, the present Ministry of Spain, would assume towards the Colonies a conciliatory tone in opposition to the violent measures adopted by the Cortes; and that, the impolitic conduct of the King since his return to Spain, would excite such general discontents, as to require the whole force of the Monarchy to quell the commotions at home, which would give them time to strengthen and organise their means of resistance.

In consequence of advice from their Agent in London, they have determined to send Deputies to Spain, and in order to conciliate, as far as concerns them, with the guarantee given by Great

Brita

of the integrity of the Spanish dominions, to proffer their allegiance, on conditions which will secure to them the free exercise and enjoyment of their rights. They mean by this step to release Great Britain from her guarantee, so that, in the event of a continuance of the contest with the mother Country, She may not be obliged to withdraw her trade; and it seems probable that, however it may ultimately affect her own Colonial System, Great Britain will make great effort to retain this present advantage.

It is difficult to form a correct opinion, what may be the event of the revolution; it has hitherto been marked by rapid and continual changes of Rulers and of Measures than which nothing can be more fatal to the progress of a State and which denotes a character that would bear them through a revolution only under the most favorable circumstances. It has been in their power to take their station among nations, and to lay the foundation of their future greatness; but the advancement of the Country has been retarded, and the efforts of Patriotism defeated by personal animosity and Ambition. Such is the detestable character of faction, that it exults in the misery, and grieves at the prosperity of the Country, if produced by the measures of its adversaries. Yet the prospect of imminent danger, all parties

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unite in the common defence, the power of Spain cannot subdue them, unless she obtain subsidies and assistance from Great Britain, by opening the ports of South America to her trade, which in the present temper of her councils does not seem probable.

Should these Countries struggle through all their difficulties, and finally succeed in establishing their independence, it is to be feared that, harassed at the frequent failure of their political experiments, and finding that ~~ably~~ parties as they alternately fill the seat of government, in order to secure their power, trample on the sacred rights of liberty, they will despair of obtaining that inestimable blessing, and end them by a military despotism.

The feelings of every American must be deeply interested in the present contest. It has been urged against the Creoles of Spanish America that they treacherously watched and seized an opportunity when the Mother Country was engaged in a war for her own existence: Actively, under such oppression they had submitted long enough, and it would have been treachery to themselves, not to have embraced the first moment to assert their rights, when the Sword, which had been for centuries suspended over their head was removed, altho it were to defend the Mother Country. Spain ~~[illegible]~~ had no right to claim assistance from her Colonies, she had deserved none at their hands.

Who among us, but exult in the feelings which excited the abuse of power, and led us through a long and Arduous Struggle to the enjoyment of Liberty and Happiness. Yet what a difference between their condition and ours? Debarred the advantages of a liberal education, they were not considered or treated like men. The period of their sufferings was longer, and their oppression more grievous; their fiscal regulations were to the last degree arbitrary and vexatious; a commercial Monopoly, the worst of all tyranny, not only checked their industry and abridged their comforts, but attempted to reduce them to the hard condition of toiling in the bowels of the earth, in order to enrich their Avaricious Masters, and to be dependent on them for the necessaries of life.

Let any one who may be led, from the favorable accounts of some late travellers, to doubt this statement, consult the list of books, prohibited by the Inquisition, and he will see proscribed every work which bears the stamp of genius. To read any book thus marked with the censure of the Church was a grievous sin, and to denounce the possessor was deemed a pious and meritorious action. In the name of the Inquisition every door was opened. Indefatigable in their zeal to destroy every work which might enlarge the views, or enlighten the understanding of the Creoles, no concealment escaped the search of these holy fathers.

Let him read the Programmes of the Studies of the Celebrated University of Cordova, "En ella se enseñan todos los ramos de Filosofia, Theologia dogmatica, Escolastica, Moral, y positiva, Leyes, y Sagrados Canones, ademas de las primeras letras y latinidad.

And finally let him refer to that infamous document "Informe del Cabildo de Mexico," published in 1809, in which that illustrious Corporation declare that "they can consider the Americans in no other light than as a species of the Ourang Outang."

A decree was obtained, and sent to America, to prohibit the cultivation of the Olive and Vine, accompanied by an order to destroy the Olive groves, and root up the Vineyards then existing: an order which would have made a desert of the fairest portion of South America and have reduced to beggary nearly a million of People. The Viceroys, to whom it was addressed, possessed too much Philanthropy, or too much Prudence, to attempt carrying it into execution. Even the patient suffering American might have revolted against the execution of such a decree. It exists however, an eternal Monument of the tyranny and rapacity of its Authors.

The Multiplicity of tribunals, the division of Command, and all the celebrated checks and restrictions against the abuse of power, instituted by the council of the Indies, operated as they were intended to operate, to secure the fidelity and allegiance of these distant rulers to the Mother Country; but produced a Combination of tyrants against the unfortunate Americans.

No language can convey an adequate idea of the tyranny of these western Bashaws. In the arbitrary exercise of uncontrouled power, they disregard alike the laws of Nations, and the rights of Individuals. The coasts of Chile and Peru swarm with their piratical Cruisers, [illegible]

Several Persons, among them some foreigners, were confined in the dungeons of Callao & of Montevideo, from the latter they were released on the payment of a ransom of money - 3000 were given in two instances for the Ransom of American Citizens.

and the Casasmatas, the damp unwholesome dungeon of Callao are crowded with their victims.

The manner in which these movements have been conducted throughout all America, places the Colonial policy of Spain in the most odious point of view. The virtues which adorn society, and brighten the page of history are the offspring of Freedom and of Science; Spain armed with those powerful engines of despotism Ignorance and superstition, spread a veil of darkness over her Colonies, still more gloomy, than that which overshadows her Empire in Europe. The first attempt of a nation of slaves to burst into light and liberty, rouses all the fierce and turbulent passions of the soul, and hurries them on to the greatest excesses: and although in this instance restrained by the mild character of the Creoles, the course of such a revolution will be marked by a series of crimes, and will almost invariably terminate in military Despotism. Still the Emancipation of these colonies, is a consummation devoutly to be wished", Under every disadvantage, the benefits of a more liberal System have been great and apparent, the Condition of the People has been ameliorated they have profited by the means of Education often opened to them, and their general character ~~[illegible]~~, The human mind appears to have risen with Elasticity equal to the weight of tyranny which had so long oppressed it;

and the improvement of this people in the arts, in knowledge, and in all the comforts and enjoyments of life, has been like the vegetation of a northern Summer, rapid vigorous, and perceptible from day to day.

There is no middle course left for them to pursue, they must free themselves from the yoke of Spain at any cost, or consent to drag out ages of protracted Slavery. They cannot hope for a gradual Emancipation, and humanity shudders at the measures, which the Character of the Spanish Rulers make it probable they would adopt, to prevent the possibility of future insurrection.

Principal Events of the Revolution in Chile & Buenos Ayres

Trade of Jamaica. Trade &c.

& The Spanish word Malicia, expresses precisely this feature in the character of the Creole. It means a compound of Cunning and Suspicion. With naturally very acute understandings, the Creole possesses this quality in a supreme degree. In the most simple words and actions, they see design: leaving to be deceived by others, they deceive themselves, and from excess of cunning, frequently overlook the truth.

The manners of the Creoles of Buenos Ayres are mild and amiable; they are of a cheerful disposition, and fond of amusements: with strong national prejudices, they are hospitable to strangers; but jealous and suspicious of them. They [redacted] dissemble their resentment of insult or injury, but are malicious, and revengeful. The harmony which ought to reign in families, and among near connections is generally interrupted by lawsuits. This litigious spirit has yielded something to the spirit of party, but before the revolution, all their passions, and pursuits centered in law and Gallantry.

The condition of the common people is generally good; the price of labour is high in the capital, and in the country, they are either small proprietors, or hold their tenements on an easy tenure, and moderate quit rent. They raise sufficient wheat, barley and Indian corn for their own consumption, and some for exportation. The greater number are shepherds, and tend the immense herds of cattle which pasture on the Pampas, and furnish the principal articles of export hides and tallow.†

With the same general character, there are some striking distinctions in Chile. The principal are, a long train of Nobility and entailed estates; and that the Peasants who live upon them hold their tenure by personal service, and a rent payable in produce. They owe implicit obedience to their Lord, and enter his presence with every outward mark of respect and submission. They are all Shepherds and Horsemen, and will ride, for days, in the service of their master, without any other pay, but what his generosity may induce him to [redacted]

† I have frequently seen the owner of a league square of land on the Pampas, with 500 head of Cattle, 200 horses, & 1000 sheep, living in a hut & having only the ordinary [illegible] owing to the distance from a market & the exorbitant price of articles of [illegible]

give, which is seldom more than enough to maintain them on the journey. They are afraid to improve the land they are allowed to cultivate, lest it should excite the avarice of the owner, who might turn them from it, and appropriate it to his own use. The most wealthy are organized into regiments of Cavalry, and must be ready, at a moments' warning, to follow their Colonel to the field. This is the general condition of the peasantry in Chile, there are some exceptions and some curious distinctions, which would be foreign to the object, and would exceed the limits of this paper to remark. They raise wheat, barley and indian corn in great abundance for their own use, and for the supply of Lima. The vine is cultivated with success, and they make good wine, and distil a great deal of brandy. The Olive grows very luxuriantly, and Oil is plenty and excellent. The large Estates are principally appropriated to grazing, and they export hides, tallow, and jerked beef. There are some domestic manufactures of Cotton and woollen stuffs.

They have had less intercourse with foreigners, than their neighbours of Buenos Ayres, and have less knōledge of the world; they are more under the influence of the Clergy, and are more ignorant and superstitious. Among the many methods employed by the Priests, to establish their dominion, extorting legacies from the dying penitent, to be employed in pious uses, for the benefit of his soul is the most powerful and efficacious, and to such extent has it been carried in this country, that I may safely assert three fifths of the real property in Chile, to be in mortmain, or mortgaged to the convents.

Previous to the late revolution, the means of acquiring knōledge were very scanty. In the Colleges of Buenos Ayres, Cordova

Chuquisaca, and Santiago de Chile, the Student was taught a smattering of latin, a little moral philosophy, some law, and a great deal of theology. Their attention was particularly directed to the two latter, as the only roads to preferment open to the exertions of the Creole. Theology, as taught in these schools, is a thorough acquaintance with the lives, and miracles of the saints, and of the dogmas and mysteries of the Catholic faith. Their studies completed, they were sent into the world, with the spirit of fanaticism, and persecution, to confirm the people in ignorance, and superstition, and to inculcate blind obedience to the mandates of the Sovereign, and implicit faith in the infallibility of the Clergy. I have been told by several Creoles, that such was the impression made on their minds by these doctrines, that they could not hear the name of King without awe, or approach a Priest, but with the respect and veneration due to a superiour being. When these men began to think, they saw only the absurdities of their education, and became sceptics in religion, and despisers of all order and government. The practice of the law is not, as in the United States, an open appeal to impartial justice; but the art of multiplying acts, and of procrastinating decisions, untill the favor of the judges be secured by impeños, a word difficult to translate into English, it means an application to the judge, thro a third person, a friend or mistress, in order to obtain a favorable decree: in the true spirit of their religion, they do not address themselves directly to the divinity; but always through the mediation of the saints. To practice therefore successfully, it was necessary to be cunning pliant and adroit. In the provinces, and generally

in the towns of the interior, the Clergy bear the principal sway; and the Lawyers rule in the capital. Since the revolution great jealousy subsist between them, the latter wish to transfer all the power to the capital, whilst the former are desirous of establishing a federal union, and to have their share in the administration of public affairs. The whole revolution has been one continued struggle for power "otez vous de la, que je m'y mette", has been the cry of all classes, and the effort of all parties. Both Priests and Lawyers have been seized with the "cacoethes legislandi", and ignorant alike of the common principles of political economy, and of the common maxims of legislation, they have carried the wildest theories into execution, and when convinced by experience of their inexpediency, have had recourse to the Military to put a stop to the evil, and again adopted some other phantom of the imagination, still more wild and extravagant than the former, and generally in the contrary extreme; and the same men, who voted to deprive the President of the first Junta of all distinction, and whose fears were excited by his having an Escort of twenty dragoons, have nominated a Supreme Director with almost regal prerogatives, and have decreed him a guard of three hundred select Cavalry.

After the return of Sir Home Popham from the Expedition against Buenos Ayres, in which that Officer and Genl. Beresford had, calculating only the facility of surprising the town, and having overlooked the difficulty of preserving their conquest, at so great a distance from their resources, he wrote a circular letter

the English Merchants, setting forth the vast advantages, to be derived from this conquest, in the extensive and lucrative market opened to their trade. This exaggerated account, and the want of a Market in Europe, occasioned great commercial Speculations to be made to the River of Plate; and large convoys of Merchantmen accompanied the Expeditions of Sir Samuel Achmuty to Montevideo, and of General Whitelocke to Buenos Ayres.

Montevideo, during the short time it remained in the hands of the English, afforded a very limited market, and the total failure of Genl. Whitelocke obliged them to return to England without having effected any considerable sales. The loss experienced on that occasion was attributed altogether to the defeat of Genl. Whitelocke; and it was still the opinion of the Merchants in London, that the Market of South America, if opened to their trade, would prove an equivalent for the loss of the commerce of the Continent, and of the United States. After the retreat of the British troops, the clamours of the people obliged the Viceroy to open the ports to all neutrals, and some American vessels traded to the River of Plate. The high duties, restrictions, and bad faith of the Merchants discouraged even the [illegible] commercial Spirit of our Countrymen. The trade was very limited, and principally carried on by English and Spanish Capital, protected by the American flag; and goods were introduced by bribery or impeños with the Viceroy. At a moment, that a third expedition was fitting out in England against this country, the revolution opened the ports to the British flag, and the Merchants who now expected to realise their former prospects of commercial

prosperity, turned their capital, and attention to the River of Plate. They applied for, and obtained a Frigate to be stationed in the river, for the protection of their ships. Entirely ignorant of the wants of the inhabitants, every article of british manufacture was sent to this market: even Skaits were seen dangling in the shops of Buenos Ayres, and Montevideo. The quantity of Merchandize brought to this market, during the first six months, was nearly equal to the Consumption of six years. The merchants in England were astonished at the slowness of the returns; and as many were obliged to instruct their agents, to make any sacrifice, and to sell at any rate. Sales at public auction were consequently made to an immense amount, below the first cost; and I have seen English points, and Calicoes retailed at Mendoza, a distance of three hundred leagues from the coast, below the retail price in London.

The new government profitted by this state of things, to exact exorbitant duties; and it frequently happened, that the Merchant not only lost the prime cost, and freight of the [redacted] articles; but had a farther sum to pay for duties; and several petitions were presented, praying to be allowed to abandon the goods in satisfaction of the duties. The english agent received ten p.c. on the sales, and returns; and the law obliged him to employ a Spanish consignee, who received from three to five. These men were enriched; but the principals inevitably failed, and the ruin of some was so complete, that they are now in B.s Ayres, assisted by their former clerks and Agents. The Obligation to employ a Spanish or native Consignee has been done away,

and a foreign merchant may now enter his ship, and dispose of his cargo in his own name.

The market of Buenos Ayres continues to be glutted with English goods, but they are better acquainted with the wants of the people. They now bring from England Ponchos, the dress of the Peasants in Buenos Ayres, and of the better class in Peru. It consists of a piece of cloth two yards long, and one and three quarters wide, with a hole in the middle large enough to admit the head. All classes use this cloak on horse-back, and those manufactured in Peru are very rich and gaudy, and are worth from thirty to one hundred dollars. The Indians manufacture the common sort, which resemble rugs, and the English bring large quantities of light cotton Ponchos.

They bring likewise Lasos and balls. The first are long plaited leather thongs, with an iron ring fixed at the extremity in order to form a running noose. Every Peasant carries a Lazo fastened to his saddle girth. They use it with great dexterity, and at full speed throw the noose over the horns of a Bull, or round his feet. The horses are trained to this exercise, and when they feel the Lazo tightened will stop suddenly, and bear with all their strength in the opposite direction, so as to stop the career of the fiercest animal. The balls are of iron covered with leather, three are fastened together, by an equal number of thongs each about three or four feet long. The hunters use them to catch ostriches and wild animals, they throw them so as to entangle the legs of the animal as it runs, and seldom

fail to bring it to the ground.

Rugs for the saddles of the cavalry, belts, and in short, every article formerly supplied by their domestic manufactories, are now brought from England. The returns are made in hides, tallow, horns, wool, feathers, skins, bark, copper and silver. Hides pay 20 p.c. O. export duty, silver +6 p.c. and all other articles 4½ p.c. Of late hides are salted for exportation, and although the leather made from them is not so good, as that made from the dried hide, they are more easily tanned, and are put up without risk. From time to time the Herdsmen make what they call a Rodeo, that is, they drive all the cattle of an estate into very large enclosures. They separate and mark the calves, or any animals found upon the estate, without a mark. They then drive those that are fit for slaughter into another pen. after which they are let out one by one, The herdsman rides after them, and at full speed cuts the hamstrings with a steel half moon fixed to a long lance. When the field is strewed with oxen, they alight, and kill and skin them. In the neighbourhood of the coast the flesh is jerked, and of late an establishement has been formed to salt beef for shipping. At any distance from the coast, they only skin the animal, and separate the tallow, and the carcase is left to rot. Animal food is so very abundant, that all birds and almost all beasts of prey live upon it. It is likewise used for fuel. I have sometimes seen in the pampas, the Carmen preparing their repast with one part of the ox burning with a little wood, in order to roast the other. Sheep are only valuable for their wool

to be altered to Spanish dollars

+ Coined Silver 6½ p.c. ½ p.c. Consulado Gold coin 2 p.c. ½ Consulado. Uncoined Silver 4½ p.c. & Gold 9 both ½ p.c. Consulado — it is understood that at the mines they pay the duties.

94 9

all times, they are killed, stacked, and sold at two dollars and a half the hundred, to burn in brick kilns. In any other climate, this would be a mass of putridity; but here, animal substances wither and dry up, probably from the nature with which the air is charged. To dry the ox hides, they are stretched out with pegs about two feet from the ground, and must remain some time in that state, exposed to the risk of being spoiled by rain. The heat and moisture rot the hair, which falls off and renders the hide unmarketable, and only fit for domestic uses. And here it becomes of most extensive and extraordinary utility. Huts are made of hides, houses are covered with them, doors are made by nailing a hide on a frame, bedsteads and chairs are manufactured in the same simple manner, every sized rope is made of hide, it is in general use instead of nails, and in buildings, the rafters are bound together with thongs. Boats for passing the rapid torrents are made of hide. These Ferries merit a particular description. When the traveller arrives at the border of a stream, which is not fordable, a single hide is laid on the ground, and a strong lasso passed round the edge, where it is secured, and drawn tight so as to bring the edges near together, and give it something the form of a tub. It is then drawn to the edge of the river, the Passenger seats himself, and is launched by the ferryman, who with the end of the lasso between his teeth, plunges in, and tows it to the opposite shore. The shoes of the peasants are made from a raw hide cut to fit the foot, and fastened round the ancle with thongs; they are left to dry on the feet, and have the appearance of Sandals. Trunks and

sacks

are made of this material, indeed it would be too tedious to enumerate the infinite variety of uses to which it is applied. The practice of salting hides will occasion great demand for that article, which is brought from the salt lakes of Patagonia by caravans of carts, escorted by a military force. It might be imported from the Cape de Verd islands at less expence.

At the commencement of the revolution, the exportation of silver was permitted on the payment of five p.c. duty. It was afterwards prohibited, but the government finding it impossible to prevent it being smuggled from the country, again permitted the exportation, increasing the duty to Six p.c. The mines of Potosi have not been worked to any considerable amount, since the battle of Hualgui, the Indians of the mita were dispersed on that occasion, and as that service was abolished, they have not since been collected. The Specie exported is brought, principally from Chile, and amounts to about three millions of Dollars annually. The british Frigates on this station are relieved every six months, and since the commencement of the revolution have carried to England nearly ten millions of dollars, on account of individuals, and of the british government, which maintained an agent in Buenos Ayres to purchase Specie; Government bills were sold at a considerable discount, and bought chiefly by Spanish Merchants, who were anxious to place their funds in security.

Boards, staves, and every sort of lumber are in constant demand, and are free of duty. Furniture, Cordage, Naval Stores, Paper, Iron

~~Cordials~~, and strong black tobacco will find a ready sale, and will bear the duties, which are levied on the market price. French and German goods are preferred to English, the Jersey and Guernsey ships, which bring only the former make the best voyages: they pay 25 p.c. on the market price. India goods are in demand; but pay 50 p.c. on the market price. Several Ships have been sent, since the peace, by British Merchants, from the River of Plate, direct to India and China.

The Comonerce of Chile offers great advantages to the Traders to China & to the Indies. It is a well known fact that specie is almost an only medium of trade with those countries, which not only deprives the merchant, for many months, of the use of a large sum; but frequently obliges him to collect dollars at a premium. Whereas, if the ports of Chile were used as a Scala, the goods suited to that market, such as Furnuture & French and German manufactures are obtained at a credit, and the returns received there Silver and Copper. In Chile, the Mines of Silver are the most productive ever wrought, the mineral of those discovered within the last four years in the province of Guasco, yields a most extraordinary product of Silver, which compared with that of Potosi, is as 40 to 14. It is not yet ascertained, whether these rich veins extend to any great depth. +

Furs might be obtained if there was any encouragement to collect them. Traders might Station small detachments along the coast, and on the Islands, to procure seal Skins, an article of great demand in China, and very abundant in these seas.

+ In Potosi a Cargon of Ore yields at most from 14 to 20 marks of Silver; and in Guasco, 70 have been extracted from a Cargon, and 40 generally. — a Cargon 50 quintals — 1 quintal 100 lb. each quintal

Quicksilver and Tobacco are articles of great consumption; but they are still Monopolies in Chile, and the price is regulated by the Government, who become the Purchasers. All instruments of Science, of Mining & the trade are introduced into both countries free of duty, printing presses & books and likewise all implements of state.

During the last war between Russia and England, a ship was erected in Valparaiso to pack hemp, and large quantities of that article were sent to England.

In the event of the intermediate ports, as they are called (los puertos intermedios) Arica Arequipa &c. being opened to a free trade it is probable, that upper Peru will be supplied through that Channel, the distance being shorter, and the roads better than to the atlantic ports. if they remain closed, great facility to smuggling is afforded by the proximity of the ports of Chile. In the hands of Freemen who were sensible of its advantages, and under an enlightened government Chile, from the number of its harbours, the richness of its productions, and the abundance of the raw material of every sort of manufacture has within itself the means of greatness, and might extend its Commerce in Corn, oil, wine and brandy to the Gulph of California, the north west coast of America, and to the Russian Settlements on Asia and on the Aleutian Islands.

I have drawn up this Statement on my passage home; my Notes & papers I considered of too much value to risk bringing in time of war, and therefore left them in Buenos Ayres. As soon as I receive them, I shall lay before you a more ample description of these interesting Countries, with a correct account of the extensive coast, and Surveys of the harbours of Chile. I have collected materials, and made observations, which will enable me to give a more correct map of Buenos Ayres & Chile than any yet published.

2

Table of the regu

Infantry	Regiments	Colonels	Lt. Colonels	Mayors	Captains	Lieutenan first	Lieutenan Seco
	Granaderos	1	1	1	23	23	
Infantry of	Concepcion	1	1	1	10	10	
Cavalry	Dragones de la frontera	1	1	1	20	20	Ensig
	National Guard	1	1	1	8	8	
	Asamblea	1	1	1	10	10	
Artillery	One Regiment	1	1	1	9	9	

General Staff.

Brigadiers . . . 4
Mayor General 1
Inspector of Cavalry . . 1
Adjutant . . . 8
Quarter master Genl. . . 1
Intendant . . . 1
Commissary 1

Auditor de Guerra (Judge & advocate)
Preboste (Criminal prosecutor)
Chaplains.
Surgeons.

...ular forces of Chile

...ants	Sergeants		Corporals Soldiers	Total	Destination	Armament		
...econd	First	Second				Muskets	Bayonets	
23	23	46	1.852	2.000	Santiago	3.000	3.000	
10	10	20	.737	.800	Concepcion	1.200	1.200	
...igns						Swords	Carbines	Pistols
20	20	20	1.000	1.103	Frontiers	1.103	.903	1.103 P.
8	8	16	.700	.751	Santiago	.751	.500	.370 P.
10	10	10	.400	.453	Instructing the militia Cavalry.	.453		.453
9	9	18	1.143	1.200	Santiago Concepcion Valparaiso & Coquimbo	60 pieces of heavy ordnance and 48 pieces of light field artillery.		

Staff of each Regiment

First Battallion	Second Battalion.
Colonel	Lt. Colonel
Major	Adjutant
Adjutant	Ensigns
Ensigns Porte Estandarte	Chaplain
Chaplain	Surgeon
Surgeon	
Corporal & Pioneers	Corporal & Pioneers
Drum major & Fifers	Fifers
Master Armourer.	Master Armourer.

Table of the Revenue and Expenditure of Chile in 1813

Receipts		Expences	
The Mint	269.544	Salaries of the treasury and Judges	61.776
The Customs	1.210.602	Collection and the Expences of the Customs	125.808
Monopoly of Tobacco	55.356	D°. D°. of the Temporalidades	7.996
Post Office	14.400	Expences of the Balanza	11.175
Temporalidades, a fund created by the confiscated property of the Jesuits.	57.936	Pay of Officers and regular troops	484.696
Consulado or bench of Commerce	138.615	Pensions on the military fund	5.340
The Mines 10th. of Gold & 5th. of Silver and Copper	236.020	Royal Pensions	21.628
		Salaries of Government	20.006
Taxes on the Salaries of Public Officers	37.872	Public buildings and works	130.006
Branch of Balanza	8.196	The ordinary and extraordinary Expences of the war department including the pay of the Militia in Service	6.248.910
A Military fund for invalids deducted from the pay of Officers and men; called Monte Pio	88.788		
Total	2.117.329	Total	2117.329

The notes which I have with me, do not enable me to draw out a correct statement of the Revenue of Buenos Ayres, which arises from the same sources, excepting, that the Monopoly of Tobacco has been done away. The interior Provinces having been so frequently in possession of the Royalist, no considerable revenue has been derived from them: indeed all the receipts have been uncertain and fluctuating; the Principal is from the customs, which yield about 100.000 $ p°. month. The taxes on the commercial houses of the Capital are high, and founded on the supposed income of the merchant: and the balance is derived from forced loans, arbitrarily exacted. The whole receipts exceed 200.000 $ p°. month. The expences are very great. That of Collection, the payment of the army and Navy, and the Salaries of the Officers of Government are considerable, and exceed the receipts. A manufactory of arms has been established at Santiago, a Simple Musket, and from the scarcity of fuel, and cleanness of materials occasions a daily expence of 1000 Dollars. The revolutionary state of these countries baffled every endeavour to obtain data to form a correct opinion of their population. At my instigation a Census of Chile was commenced, but was interrupted by the invasion. It does not fall short of 900.000 Souls, of these a very small proportion are Indians, with still fewer blacks, and people of Colour. In the Vicerovalty of Buenos Ayres 1.500.000 is the lowest computation, but a much greater proportion of Indians, negroes, and people of Colour. I shall present, what I believe, an accurate table of the population of the Vicerovalty of Lima.

96

Frequent and successful voyages have been made to the Islands of the Pacific for sandal wood; it may not be amiss to generally known that the most valuable article of commerce that the trader can carry to the Islands are

Table of the

Infantry

Regiments	Colonels	Lt. Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants First	Lieutenants Second	Sergeants First	Sergeants Second	Drummers
N° 1	1	1	1	6	6	12	6	12	12
N° 2	1	1	1	20	20	40	20	40	40
N° 3	1	1	1	20	20	40	20	40	40
N° 4	1	1	1	5	5	10	5	10	10
N° 5	1	1	1	14	14	28	14	28	28
N° 6	1	1	1	14	14	28	14	28	28
N° 7	1	1	1	4	4	8	4	8	8
N° 8	1	1	1	10	10	20	10	20	20
N° 9	1	1	1	6	6	12	6	12	12
N° 10	1	1	1	5	5	10	5	10	10
Total									

Cavalry					Ensigns			Trumpeters
Dragones de la Patria	1	1	1	12	12	12	12	12	12
mounted Granadeers	1	1	1	10	10	10	10	10	20
Regiment of Cavalry in Peru	Grand National Guard forming in B. A. — force not known								
Artillery	2	2	2	20	20	20	20	40	40

General Officers

One Captain General with the rank of Brigadier
6 Brigadiers. one general of Artillery
1 Major general of Cavalry
1 Major general of Infantry
1 Quarter master general
1 Inspector general of Cavalry
1 Inspector general of Infantry
1 Intendant.
Adjutants

Auditor. or Criminal Judge
Provost or attorney

the Regulars forces of Buenos Ayres

tory

...mmer	Corporals and Soldiers	Total	Destination	Armament
2	503	560	..... Peru	
0	1.817	2.000	B.s Ayres & East.n Shore	
0			Eastern Shore revolted	
0	404	.452	Peru	14.000 Musquet with their bayonets complete is the whole armament of B.s A.s including the 6000 Musquet taken a Montevideo, there are about 5.000 Musquets not service able and a manufactory established
8	1.075	1.200	Buenos Ayres	
8	1.075	1.200	Liberti. Peru	
8	275	350	Buenos Ayres	
0	807	900	Liberti. Peru	
2	493	550	Buenos Ayres	
0	352	400	Sapadores. Montevideo	
			The Service of B.s A.s is performed by a national guard, composed of two Regiment, one of foot and one of Horse. badly armed.	

...mpets						
2	482	357	Eastern Shore	Swords	Carbines	Pistols
0	427	500	Peru and E.n Shore	1357	1357	1357
	300	300	Buenos Ayres			

...mmer				
0	1.334	1.500	500 pieces of heavy Ordnance principally from Montevideo 12 Mortars and 12 obusers 50 pieces of light field B.s Ayres. Monte video and Peru	Pieces.

Staff of each Regiment

First Batallion	Second Batallion
Colonel	Lt. Colonel
Major	Adjutant
Adjutant	Standard Bearers
Standard Bearers	Chaplain
Chaplain	Surgeon
Surgeon	Corporal of Pioneers
Corporal of Pioneers	Pioneers
Pioneers.	Fifers
Drum major and Fifers	Master Armourer
Master Armourer	

Commodore Decatur's Letter

170

Santiago de Chile
April 2. 1814

Sir

I have with great regret to state to you the loss of the U. S. Frigate Essex; but the satisfaction to assure you that she fell into the Enemy's hands by an accident, and after as gallant a defense against superior force, as adorns the naval annals of any Nation.

I mentioned to you in a former letter, that H. B. M.' Ships Phoebe and Cherub were cruising off the port of Valparaiso on the 28th ult.o the Essex parted her Cables in a heavy blow from the South; She immediately made sail and stood out to Sea, in passing the W. point of Valparaiso bay a violent gust of wind carried away the main top mast; while every effort was made to regain her former anchorage, finding this impracticable she ran into a small bay, and anchored in such a position that the Enemy's

ships could not pass between her and the shore.

In this disabled state, and under the protection of a neutral port, (unless it be generally admitted that the jurisdiction of a neutral port does not extend one line beyond the reach of its batteries) The Essex was attacked by the Enemy's ships, and forced them after a sharp onset to stan off to repair their damages: on their return the Essex's cable was cut & every effort made to bring the Phebe to close action ; but the latter being armed with long eighteen pounders ch a distance where the carronades of the former could not reac and the only guns that could be used in the defense of the ship were six long twelve pounders: she was soon a complete wreck, her rudder and masts wounded and her rigging cut to pieces; in this helpless state she took fire in two places, the smoke rushed thro' the hatchways, and the men were obliged to leave the gun deck, and Capt. Porter expecting that the ship might blow up, as the fire was reported to be near the magazine intimated to them, that such as could swim were at liberty to leave the ship, and save their lives, after using every instance to induce their brave commander to abandon the ship, many jumped overboard and gained the shore: the fire was got under and the defense con= tinued for some minutes longer.

I have been this particular in my account of the loss of the Essex in justice to the Valour and Conduct of her gallant commander, whose noble defense I witnessed from the shore.

The action commenced at ten minutes past four and the

Colours were struck at 20 minutes last Six P.M.

I have the honor to be
with great respect,
Sir,
your most Obt. Servt.

S. R. Fowsett

The hon.ble James Monroe
Secretary of State
Washington

72

Buenos Ayres
14 June 1814

No. 6

By the cartel Espy junior I had the honor to inform you of the state of Chile, and of the negotiations then pending, thro' the mediation of the British Commander, between the royal and patriot armies; the enclosed treaties contains the result: provided no revolution in Europe stops the course of the capitulations, the privileges granted the patriots will be but temporary; but it is probable that the movement of affairs will determine, what the history of the conduct of Lord Strathfallen at Montevideo would anticipate in the decision of counter revolution in that Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the determination expressed in my last not to oppose the capitulation, especially as it was opened that the ports would remain open to the American commerce, the government of Chile fearful of opposition, and instigated by a violent letter from Lord Strangford, and by the British Commander, insisted upon my making immediate use of the passport which I had solicited a few days before, I enclose their note with a copy of my answer.

The government of Buenos Ayres has a respectable squadron in the river, which has already obtained a considerable advantage over that of Montevideo; that place blockaded by a superior force both by land and water must shortly fall, if indeed the differences which exist among the patriots which divide their councils and their armies, do not again prevent it.

Dn Manuel Sarratea

a former member of the government has been sent [redacted] to England
; a mission which has originated from the [illegible] reluctant opinion of a
rupture between G Britain & [illegible] on the present Government of this Country unle[illegible]
endeavour to obtain the protection of the latter
at any price such is however the disposition of the people that
the English never can gain a permanent footing in these countries

The English have here in two instances carried into effect
the distinguishing principles of their maritime right, to respect
only such neutral ports as have a sufficient force
to cause their neutral rights to be respected. You are al-
ready informed of the attack on the Essex within a
cable's length of the shore, and a few days since the hope
a ship from New York, was lying on the outer roads of this
port and sent in a prize to Rio de Janeiro. [illegible]

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect,
Sir,
your most Obt. humble Servt.
O. H. Perry

x

Duplicate

B.s Ayres. 14 June 1814.

Sir

By the Cartel I have junior I had the honor to inform you of the state of Chile and of the negociations then pending thro' the mediation of y.r Britich Commander between the royal and patriot armies: the enclosed monitor contains the result: provided no revolution interrupts the course of the Capitulations the priviledges granted the patriots will be but temporary, but it is probable that the aspect of affairs here will determine, as it has hitherto, the conduct of Chile: the fall of Monte Video would occasion an immediate counter revolution in that Kingdom:

Notwithstanding the determination expressed in my last, not to oppose the Capitulations, especially as it was assured me that the ports would remain open to the american commerce, the Government of Chile feared opposition, and instigated by a violent letter from Lord Strangford, and by the British commander insisted upon my making immediate use of the passport which I had solicited a few days before, I enclose their note with a copy of my answer.

The Govern.t of B.s A.s has a respectable Squadron in the River which has already obtained a considerable advantage over that of M.deo: that place blockaded by a superior force both by Land & water must shortly fall, if indeed the differences which

exist among the patriots, and which divide their
Councils and their armies do not augment
=ment it:

Don Manuel de Sarratea a former
new member of the Government has been sent
to England; a mission which has originated
from the 1386, 415, 317, 866, 1397, 1215, 736, 103, 737, 2, 522
1000, 1355, 1061, 916, 1441, 1397, 891, 971, 1524, 1252, 1543, 283,
1512, 1554, 703, 1355, 409, 1175, 1179, 765 1397, 1355, 556, 1425
1413, 1472, 449, 1104, 30, 583, 53, 1355, 696, 708, 601, 1397, 1355
1002, 284, 1355, 792, 1182, 1319, 1348, 1215, 1314, 413, 1166, 1399, 593, 1348, 661, 97

the English have here carried into
instances carried into effect the distinguishing
principle of their maritime right, to respect
only such Neutral ports as have a sufficient
force to cause their Neutral rights to be res
=pected: You are already informed of the
attack on the Essex within a cable length of
the shore, and a few days since the Hope
a ship from New York, was seized in the
Outer roads of this port, and sent a prize
to Rio de Janeiro 300. 597. 538. 1168. 1407, 1456, 1554
1215. 613. 116, 1228, 1446, 249, 1215, 601, 1397, 891, 964, 1038,
559, 685, 735, 683, 1315, 279, 372, 445, 1319, 1175. 1554, 409,
1175, 1179, 1236, 1087, 1116 1397, 137, 1372, 683, 1315 445 1319
1175, 343, 1029, 480, 285, 317, 1355, 1477, 365, 1315, 822, 39, 462, 1

I have the honor to be
with great respect
Sir,
Your most Obt. Hble. Servant
J. A. Pinkett

176

B.s Ayres 16th Sept.r 1814

Sir I have the Honor to Inform you that I have this day drawn on you in favor of Mariana Monson, or Order, to the Amo.t of Four Hundred & Five dollars, Which I Request you will Honor & Pay

I have the Honor to be
With great Respect
Your Most Ob.t Serv.t

To the Hon.ble Sec.y of State
of the United States
Washington

J. R Pomsett

Consular

Consul General at Buenos Ayres, Chili & Peru

Joshua Johnson Esq. at Charleston

1797

May 27. 1816

Buenos Ayres

Sir

I enclose you a statement of my account with the department of State. Mr. Miller instead of sending all the papers and vouchers in his possession, has only sent me the enclosed certificate: I am therefore obliged to send the account in its present form. It is by no means my intention, by so doing, to exhibit the demand against the department; and only wish to close the accounts, [redacted] In the course of the summer I shall send a correct mark of the countries, which I visited and such information as I have collected concerning them. I have the honor

I to be with the greatest respect

Sir,

your most Obt. Servant

J. R. Poinsett

The Hon.ble Secretary of State

Sir Columbia 4th November 1818.

In conformity with the request of the President of the United States contained in your Letter of the 23d of October, I have the honor to transmit to you such information as I possess in relation to the affairs of South America. —

I regret that my absence from Charleston where most of my documents are, does not allow me to enter more into detail and to give a fuller description of those Countries. —

As the Executive will doubtless have received from the Commissioners ample information with regard to the recent occurrences in Buenos Ayres and Chile I have only brought down the events of the Revolution to the period of their arival at Buenos Ayres: in the course of this narative I have confined myself to facts; for I thought it unnecessary to dwell on the motives which induced the Creoles to shake off the Spanish Yoke, the oppression under which they labored, the severe and absurd restrictions upon their Commerce and Industry are too notorious to require a comment; and the situation of the Mother Country, not only justified, but rendered it necessary for them to establish for themselves an internal Government. —

By Letters which I have received since the return of the Commissioners from Buenos Ayres, I learn that the Portuguese Forces are in the possession of the principal places on the Eastern shore of La Plata & Uruguay of the Country between the Paraná and Uruguay. Their advanced Posts extend to Coimbra. The Royal

Forces

Forces in upper Peru are posted at the defiles of Jujuie, and are in prospect of the Country above Salta. The Force of Buenos Ayres under the Command of Belgrano are at Tucuman. — By the last Victory gained by the Patriots of Chili on the plains of Maipo, the Royalists have been driven within the fortifications of Talcahuano.

I have the honor to be with great respect

Sir

Your most humble and

Obedient Servant —

J. R. Poinsett

To the Honorable

John Quincy Adams

Secretary of State. —

BUENOS AIRES

and

CHILE

No 1

Mr. Forbes

with his dutiful Son

BUENOS AYRES
and
CHILE.
N°. 1.

with Mr. Forbes's Com.
of Sept. 4. 1818

100 1/2

The Geographical divisions of the Viceroyalty of Peru.

The Viceroyalty of Peru extends 365 leagues N. and S. from 3° 35′ of S. lat. and and 126 leagues E. and W. between 63° 56′ — and 70° 18′ from the Meridian of Cadiz.

The Bay of Tumbez separates it on the N. from the Kingdom of Granada. — The river of Loa on the S. from the desert of Atacama, and the Kingdom of Chile. — The Cordillera of Vilacota in 14° S. separates it from Buenos Ayres. On the E. it is — bounded by an immense desert and on the

W. by the Pacific Ocean. The face of the Country is extremely unequal, — bordering on the Coast it is a barren sandy desert with a few small but fertile Vallies, and in the interior are the lofty Mountains and deep — Valleys of the Cordillera. The — temperament varies therefore in the same latitude. In the habitable — parts of the mountains the Thermometer of Reaumur varies from 3° below — 0. to 9° above. At Lima and generally along the Coast the constant variation of the Thermometer is from 13° to 23½

The productions of Peru follow the nature of its different climates. Wine, Oil, and Sugar are the most valuable productions of the Coast. Corn and Wheat of the Vallies and Bark and Coca of the Mountains.

The annual product of the mines is valued at 4.500.000 dollars.

The population of the Viceroyalty is calculated at 1.076.997 Souls.

It is divided into seven Intendencies comprehending 51 districts, the latter governed by Sub-delegates responsible to the Intendents, who is under the direction of the Superintendant General a dignity

always invested in the Viceroy.

The Viceroyalty contains five Dioceses.

Lima the Capital of Peru. is situated in 12° 2′ 51″ S. lat. and 76° 50′ 51″ longitude and was founded by Don Francisco Pizano in 1535.

Notwithstanding the frequent Earthquakes which destroyed the City in the Years 1586. 1630. 1655. 1687. and 1746. Lima occupies an Area of Ten Miles circumference, including the Suburb of San Lazaro.

The Population amounts to

1025

52.627 inhabitants = 292 Clergy = 991 Religious

Friars and Monks = 572 Nuns = 84 Beatas =

17.215 Spaniards and white Creoles = 3.912 =

Indians 8.960 Negroes and the remainder

intermediate clases mixtures of the others

The Intendancy of Lima comprehends

74 Doctrinas (Curacies) 3 Cities, 5 Towns —

and 173 Townships — Population 149.112 souls —

431 Clergy 1.100 Religious, — 572 Nuns 84. —

Beatas — 22.370 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles —

63.181 Indians — 13.747 Mestizoes — 17.864

Mulattoes — and 29.763 Slaves — it is divided

into eight districts in the following order.

Cercado de Lima — This district [illegible]

comprehends 14 Curacies, One City -
6 Townships - and contains a population
of 62.910 Souls - 309 Clergy - 991 Religious
572 Nuns - 84 Beatas - 18.219 -
Spaniards and Spanish Creoles -
9.744 Indians - 4.879 Mestizoes -
10.231 free people of Colour and -
17.881 Slaves.

The principal produce is fruit.
Honey, Sugar, and vegetables, which
are consumed in the Capital to the
amount of 500.000 Dollrs per Annum

Cañete - This district comprehends
7 Curacies - One City, One Town. 4 -
Townships, it is inhabited by 12.616

Souls - 15 Clergy - 19 Religious - 465 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles - 7.028 Indians - 737 Mestizoes - 992 free people of Colour - 3.363 Slaves - Produce - Sugar, Grain, and some Wine - annual value 350.000 Dollars.

The district of Ica, comprehends 10 - Curacies, One City, Two Towns, and three Townships - Inhabitants 20.576 - 22 Clergy, 75 Religious - 2.158 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles - 6.607 Indians - 3.405 Mestizoes - 4.305 free people of Colour - 4.004 Slaves - Produce - Brandy, Olives, ~~and some Sugar~~, A Copper Mine is wrought in this District, which also produces Brandy, Olives, and

some Sugar, and manufactures — Glass and Soap — Annual value 588.742 Dollrs. 4rs.

Yaugos — Comprehends 7 — Curacies and 25 Townships, It is inhabited by 9.574 Souls — 12 Clergy — 13 Spaniards and Creoles, 8.005 Indians 93 Mestizoes and 1.451 free people of Colour — Produce — Cattle and Sheep annual value 20.200 Dollars.

Huarochiró — Comprehends 11 — Curacies and 35 Townships, and is inhabited by 14.024 Souls — 25 Clergy — 220 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles —

13.084 Indians – 591 Mestizoes – 19 free people of Colour and 84 Slaves. – The Produce – of this district is Grain and Cattle and it possesses rich silver mines – Annual amount not ascertained –

Canta – Comprehends 9 Doctrinas – and 54 Townships inhabited by 12.133 souls 20 Clergy – 57 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles – 10.333 Indians – and 1.723 Mestizoes – Produce – Indian Corn, Potatoes and – Cattle – annual value 20.103 Dollars.

Chancay – Comprehends 9 Doctrinas, two Towns, and 28 Townships, and is – inhabited by 13.945 Souls – 18 Clergy. 15 – Religious – 969 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles

7.510 Indians – 1.081 Mestizoes – 759
free Mulattoes and 3.604 Slaves –
Produces – Grain, Sugar, and Cattle
annual value 464.504 Dollars 4 rials

Santa – Comprehends 7 Doctrinas
and 14 Townships, inhabited by 3.334
Souls – 10 Clergy – 279 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles 873 Indians, 1.237
Mestizoes – 108 free Mulattoes, and
827 Slaves – Produces – Sugar, Grain,
and Cattle annual value 245.000
Dollars.

Intendancy of Cuzco

The City of Cuzco, Capital of the
former Incas is situated 13°.32'.20" S

Lat. 65°. 15'. 20". long. It was founded in the Eleventh Century by Manco Capac and taken possession of by Francisco Pizarro in 1534. The population is estimated at 32.082 Souls - 89 Clergy - 436 Religious - 166 Nuns - 113 Beatas - 16.122 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles - 14.254 Indians - 203 Negroes, and the remainder Mestizoes and Mulattoes -

The Intendancy of Cuzco, comprehends 102 Doctrinas, 1 City, 2 Towns, 131 Townships, inhabited by 216.382 Souls - 315 Clergy - 474 Religious recluses - 166 Nuns, 113 - Beatas - 31.828 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles

159.105 Indians - 23.704 Mestizoes -
993 free Mulattoes - 284 Slaves.

Cercado del Cuzco. Comprehends
8 Doctrinas, One City, inhabited by
32.082 Souls - 89 Clergy. 486 Religious
Recluses - 166 Nuns - 113 Beatas -
16.122 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles -
14.254 Indians. 646 free Mulattoes -
203 Slaves - the remainder Mestizoes -
Produces - Grain & Manufactures some
Woollen and Cotton Stuffs.

Abancay - This District
comprehends 9 Doctrinas and 8 Townships
inhabited by 25.259 Souls. 33 Clergy
1.937 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles

18. 419 Indians - 4.739 Mestizoes - 50 free 13/106
Mulattoes - 81 Slaves - Produce - Sugar,
Cotton, Grain, and Coca - Annual value
350,000 Dollars.

Aymaraes - Comprehends 16 doctrinas,
and 34 Townships, inhabited by 15,281 Souls -
24 Clergy - 1 Recluse - 4.474 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles, and 10.782 Indians. —
Produces - Various kinds of Dyes, raises
Cattle and manufactures some woollen Stuffs
Annual value 145,000 Dollars.

Calca and Lares, comprehends 5 -
doctrinas, and 6 Townships, inhabited by
6.199 Souls, 13 Clergy, 347 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles, 5.519 Indians, and 320 -

Mestizoes - Produce - Grain, Cotton, Red Pepper, Coca, manufactures some woollen stuffs. - Annual value - 176.239 Dollars.

Urubamba - Comprehends - 6 Doctrinas and 4 Townships and is inhabited by 9.250 Souls - 22 Clergy 35 Religious - 835 Spaniards and Creoles 5.164 Indians, and 3.194 Mestizoes - Produce - Grain, Coca, and a - variety of fruits - Annual value - 89.098 Dollars -

Colabambas - Comprehends 13 Doctrinas and 14 Townships, and is inhabited by 19.824 Souls - 19 Clergy

186 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles - 18.237 Indians, - and 1,382 Mestizoes - Produce - Indian Corn, and Grain - annual Value 20.000 Dollars -

Parare, comprehends 9 Doctrinas - and 19 Townships, inhabited by 20,236 Souls 20 Clergy, 1 Recluse - 2.331 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles - 15.034 Indians - 2.733 Mestizoes and 117 free Mulattoes - Produce - Grain and Cattle, and manufactures linen cloth - annual value 96.471 Dollars -

Chumbibilcas - comprehends 11 - doctrinas and 12 Townships and is inhabited by 15.973 Souls. 27 Clergy, 4.471 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, and 11.475 Indians

Indians, 4. 129 Mestizoes, the remainder Mulattoes and Negros—

The Intendancy of Arequipa comprehends 60 Doctrinas, 2 Cities 2 Towns, and 8 Townships and is inhabited by 136. 801 Souls, 326 Clergy 284 Religious, 126 Nuns, & Beatas, 39. 357 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 66. 609 Indians, 17. 797 Mestizoes 7. 003. free Mulattoes, 5. 258 Slaves.

Cevicado de Arequipa comprehends 11 Doctrinas, 1 City, and two Townships inhabited by 37. 721 Souls. 93 Clergy. 325 Religious recluses. 162 Nuns. 5 Beatas, 22. 687 Spaniards

and Spanish Creoles, 5,929 Indians 19/109
4,908 Mestizoes, 2477 free Mulattoes —
1,225 Slaves. Produce — Grain, Wine, —
Brandys, Sugar, Cotton and Oil, Annual
value 636,800 Dollars.

Camana, comprehends 7 Doctrinas
and 8 Townships inhabited by 10,052 —
Souls, 34 Clergy, 9 Religious recluses, —
5,05 Spaniards, and Spanish Creoles, —
1,249 Indians, 1,021 Mestizoes, 1,747 —
free Mulattoes, and 887 Slaves — Produce —
Wine, Sugar, and oil, annual value
300,000 Dollars.

Condesuyos, comprehends, 9 Doctrinas

and 18 Townships and is inhabited
by 20. 145 Souls, 35 Clergy, 3. 603.
Spaniards and Spanish Creoles —
12. 011 Indians, 4. 358 Mestizoes —
34 free Mulattoes, and 44 Slaves.

Contains Gold mines, and produces
Cochineal and Grain, annual —
Value 26. 458 Dollars.

Collaguas, comprehends 16
Doctrinas, and 16 Townships, and
is inhabited by 13. 905 Souls, 40
Clergy, 212 Spaniards and Spanish
Creoles, 11. 872 Indians, 1. 417 —
Mestizoes, 335 free Mulattoes and
29 Slaves — Produce — Grain, Wool

and manufactures some Woollen stuffs —

Annual Value 70. 100 Dollars.

The Silver Mines in this district —
yield annually 34. 000 Marks.

Moquegua, comprehends 6 Doctrinas,
and 6 Townships, and is inhabited by —
28. 279 Souls, 53 Clergy, 29 Religious —
recluses, 5. 596 Spaniards and Spanish
Creoles, 17. 272 Indians, 2. 916 Mestizoes
887 free Mulattoes, and 1. 526 Slaves.

Produce — Grain, and Wine, annual —
Value — 705. 000 Dollars.

Arica, comprehends 7 Doctrinas —
1 City, and 26 Townships inhabited by
18. 776 Souls, 44 Clergy, 21 Religious recluses

1.585 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles,
12.870 Indians, 1.977 Mestizoes &
930 free Mulattoes, and 1.294 Slaves
— Produce — Wine, Grain, Cotton and
Oil. — Annual Value 160.500 Dollrs

Tarapaca, comprehends —
4 Doctrinas and 12 Townships —
inhabited by 7.923 Souls, 27 Clergy.
509 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles,
5.406 Indians, 1.200 Mestizoes,
528 free Mulattoes, and 253 Slaves —
Produce — Wine and some Grain —
Annual Value 81.400 Dollars —

The Silver mines of this district
produce annually 72.462 Marks.

23
111

The Intendancy of Truxillo

The City of Truxillo is situated in 8.° 5′ S. lat and 72.° 44′ long. founded by Francis Pizarro in 1535. Population 5.790 Souls, 133 Clergy, 60 Religious — recluses, 829 Nuns, 1.263 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 274 Indians, 704 — Mestizoes, 1.000 Negroes and the rest — Mulattoes.

The Intendancy of Truxillo — comprehends 87 Doctrinas, 5 Cities, 2 Towns, and 142 Townships. Population. 230. 967 — Souls, 460 Clergy, 160 Religious recluses, — 162 Nuns. 19. 098 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 115. 647 Indians; 76. 949 Mestizoes

13.757 free Mulattoes, and 4,725 Slaves

Cercado de Truxillo

comprehends 10 Doctrinas and 6 Townships, Population 12.032 Souls, 124 Clergy, 60 Religious, 129 Nuns - 1,434 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 4,577 Indians, 1,549 Mestizoes. 2,357 free Mulattoes, 1,582 Slaves. Produce,- Sugar, Rice, Oil, Cotton, and various gums - Annual Value 31,756 Dollars -

Lambayeque, comprehends 20 Doctrinas, and 7 Townships - Population 35.192 Souls, 62 Clergy

27 Religious, 2.299 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 22,333 Indians, 5,448 Mestizoes, 3,192 free Mulattoes, and 1.831 Slaves - Produce — Grain, Safran, Sugar, Tobacco and Cotton, Manufactures some Cotton and Woollen Stuffs, Soap &c. — Annual Value 397,799 Dollars -

Piura, comprehends 12 Doctrinas and 14 Townships. Population 44,491 Souls, 61 Clergy, 18 Religious, 2874 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 24,797 Indians, 10,654 Mestizoes, — 5,203 free Mulattoes, and 884 Slaves. —

Produce — Grain, Cotton, some Indigo, — abounds with Cattle — annual Value - 72.686 Dollars

Caxamarca, comprehends 17 Doctrinas, and 26 townships, Population 62. 199 Souls. 23 Clergy. 50 Religious 33 Nuns, 7.835 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles. 29. 692 Indians. 22. 299 Mestizoes 1. 875 free Mulattoes, and 328 Slaves — Produce — Grain and Cotton, abounds in Cattle and manufactures Cotton and woollen Stuffs — Annual value — —

Chota. Not able to ascertain any correct information respecting — this District — Possesses rich Mines,

Huamachuco, comprehends

8 Doctrinas, and 23 Townships, Population
38.150 Souls, 64 Clergy, 2.273 Spaniards
and Spanish Creoles, 17.117 Indians, 18.367
Mestizoes, 250 free Mulattoes, and 79 Slaves.
Produce - Grain, and Coca, and manufactures
linen Cloths - Annual value - 57.853 Doll.

Pataz, comprehends 3 Doctrinas, and
13 Townships, Population, 13.508 Souls,
11 Clergy, 3 Religious, 987 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles 4.627 Indians, 7.678
Mestizoes, 194 free Mulattoes and 8 Slaves
Produce - Grain and Sugar, and abounds in
Cattle - Annual value 35.264 Dollars -
The Gold mines of this district Yield -

250 lb per Annum. and the Silver 500 Marks – Value of both – 35,500 Dollrs

Chachapoyas, comprehends

17 Doctrinas and 60 Townships – – Population. 25,398 Souls. 34 Clergy. 11 Religious, 1,396 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles. 12,504 Indians, 10,954 Mestizoes 486 free Mulattoes. and 13 Slaves. — Produce – Tobacco, Bark, Sugar and Cacao.

Intendancy of Huamanga

The City of Huamanga is — situated in 13° 1′ 0″ S. lat. and — 68° 6′ long. Population. 25,970 Souls

25 Clergy. 42 Religious. 82 Nuns. 169 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 20.373 Indians, 4.382 Mestizoes and the remainder Mulattoes and Negroes

The Intendancy of Huamanga, comprehends 50 Doctrinas, One City, and 134 Townships. and is inhabited by 111.559 Souls. 176 Clergy. 45 Religious. 82 Nuns. 5.378 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 75.284 Indians. 29.621 Mestizoes. 943 free Mulattoes and 30 Slaves.

Cercado de Huamanga, comprehends 3 Doctrinas and 2 Townships. and is inhabited by 25.970 Souls. 25 Clergy. 42 Religious, 82 Nuns. 169 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles

20,373. Indians. 4,372 Mestizoes., 30 Slaves the rest free Mulattoes. Possess some manufactures - Annual Value 34,268 Dollars.

Inco, comprehends 1 Doctrina and 4 Townships inhabited by 2.022 Souls. 9 Spaniards, 1.744 Indians, 269 Mestizoes Produce - Sugar and Coffee - Annual Value 18.795 Dollars.

Huanta, comprehends 7 Doctrinas and 20 Townships and is inhabited by 27,337 Souls, 45 Clergy, 3 Religious, - 219 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, - 19,981 Indians, 10,080. Mestizoes, and

3/115

9 free Mulattoes.

Cangallo, comprehends 10 Doctrinas, and 31 Townships, and is inhabited by 12.474 Souls 31 Clergy, 62 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 10,011 Indians, 2,363 Mestizoes and 7 free Mulattoes - Produce - grain and Cattle

Andahuaylas, this district comprehends 10 Doctrinas, and 18 Townships, and is inhabited by 12.020 Souls, 20 Clergy. 3,000 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles. 5,000 Indians 4,000 Mestizos. Produce - grain and Sugar - Annual value 74.384 Dollars.

Lucanas, comprehends 14 Doctrinas and 44 Townships, and is inhabited by 15,727

Souls, 27 Clergy, 862 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles 12,700 Indians, 2,076
Mestizoes, and 60 free Mulattoes — —
Produce — Grain and Cattle.

Parinacochas, comprehends
14 Doctrinas, and 16 Townships, Population
16,011 Souls, 28 Clergy, 1,057 Spaniards
and Spanish Creoles, 8,475 Indians
and 6,451 Mestizoes. Raises Cattle
and Manufactures Cotton Stuffs.
Annual value 56,000 Dollars

Intendancy of Huancavelica

The Town of Huancavelica is
situated in 12° 53' S. lat. & 68° 46' long

Population. 5. 156 Souls. 21 Clergy. 18 Religious
560 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles. 3. 803 —
Indians. 731 Mestizoes. and the remainder
Mulattoes and Negroes.

The Intendancy of Huancavelica
comprehends 22 Doctrinas. One City. One Town
and 86 Townships. and is inhabited by 30. 917
Souls. 81 Clergy. 18 Religious. 2.341 Spaniards
and Spanish Creoles. 23. 899 Indians. 4. 537
Mestizoes and 41 Slaves.

Cercado de Huancavelica. this
District. comprehends 4 Doctrinas. and 6 —
Townships. inhabited by 5. 146 Souls. 21 —
Clergy. 18 Religious. 560 Spaniards and Spanish

Creoles, 3.803 Indians 731 Mestizoes
and 13 Slaves.

Ingavaes. this district comprehends
5 Doctrinas and 25 Townships, inhabited
by 3.245 Souls, 23 Clergy, 219 Spaniards
and Spanish Creoles, 2.691 Indians,
309 Mestizoes, and 3 Slaves. Produces
Sugar, Grain, and Cattle. annual
Value 85.000 Dollars.

Tayacaxa, comprehends 5 —
Doctrinas and 22 Townships —
inhabited by 13.161 Souls, 21 Clergy —
1.394 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles
9.020 Indians, and 2.726 Mestizoes

35-
117

Castrovirreyna, comprehends 8 Doctrinas and 35 Townships, inhabited by 9.365 Souls — 16 Clergy, 168 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 8.385 Indians, 771 Mestizos and 25 Slaves. Produces Grain and Cattle, annual value 76.000 Dollars.

Intendancy of Tarma

The Town of Tarma is situated in 12°. 38'. 49" S. lat. and 69°. 29' long. Population 5.538 Souls, 2 Clergy, 361 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 1.878 Indians, 3.244 Mestizos, the rest Mulattoes and Slaves.

The Intendancy of Tarma — comprehends 79 Doctrinas, one City, 2 Towns and 203 Townships, inhabited by 201.259 Souls

229 Clergy, 127 Religious, 15 Beatas,
15,939 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles,
105,187 Indians, 78,682 Mestizoes,
844 free Mulattoes and 236 Slaves

Cercado de Tarma

comprehends 13 Doctrinas, 1 Town, and
45 Townships, inhabited by 34,491
Souls, 32 Clergy, 1,681 Spaniards and
Spanish Creoles, 18,821 Indians,
14,300 Mestizoes and 77 free Mulattoes
Produces Grain and bark - Annual
value 8.315 Dollars.

The Mine of Yauricocha yielded in
1793 2.016.703 Dollars. Rent of the
Crown for Diezmos and Cobos -
231.283 Dollars

Xauja, comprehends 14 Doctrinas, One Town, and 16 Townships, inhabited by 52.286 souls.- 32 Clergy, 84 Religious, 1,713 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 28.477 Indians — 21.922 Mestizoes, and 58 Slaves

Caxatambo, comprehends 13 Doctrinas, and 56 Townships, inhabited by 16,872 Souls, 31 Clergy, 904 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles 10,500 Indians, 4.808 Mestizoes, 629 — free Mulattoes — ~~Produces grain, Sugar and~~ Produces Grain and Cattle - Annual value ~~Cotton, manufactures some woollen Stuffs,~~ 30,000 Dollars —
~~Annual value — 36 Dollars~~

Conchucos, comprehends 15 Doctrinas and 19 Townships inhabited by 25.308 Souls

40 Clergy, 2 Religious, 1.384 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 9.899 Indians and 13.983 Mestizoes. - Produces grain and possesses mines, but which are not very productive. Annual value 73.476 Dollars.

Huamalies comprehends 8 - Doctrinas, and 30 Townships inhabited by 14.234 Souls. 18 Clergy, 593 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles, 8.957 Indians, 4.625 Mestizoes, and 43 Slaves. - - Produces, Bark, Coca and Cattle. - Annual value 53.420 Dollars

Huaylas comprehends 12 Doctrinas

119 39

and 20 Townships, inhabited by 40.822 Souls,
67 Clergy, 11 Religious, 3.604 Spaniards
and Spanish Creoles, 20.935 Indians, —
15.971 Mestizoes, 138 free Mulattoes and
96 Slaves.

Huanuco, comprehends, 4 Doctrinas,
One City, and 7 Townships, inhabited by —
16.826 Souls — 9 Clergy, 30 Religious, 15
Beatas, 6.060 Spaniards and Spanish Creoles,
7.598 Indians, 3.075 Mestizoes, and —
39 Slaves — Produces bark, Coca, and exports
a small quantity of silver.

Annual value 45.094 Dollars —

Panatahuas

Military Governments of Callao

and of the Archipelago of Chiloe

Number of Indians, for the Collection of Tributes levied on males from 10 to 50 Years of Age

Male	314.863
Females	304.327
	619: 190
Exempt from age sex & Rank -	473.615
Contributing	145.575

Amount of the Tributes 885.586

Of the common hospital fund	25.852-7
	911.438-7
Pensions & pences &c -	374.052-4
Neat Rent	537.386.3

Duties

Imports into Callao 6 per cent Alcabala and 3 per Cent Customs, Woollen Exports 3 per Cent.

The inferiour Commerce pays 6 per-

Alcabala.

Alcabala were first levied in Peru

in the year 1596 at 2 p.c until the

year 1771 when they were increased to

4 p.c in the year 1777 they were —

encreased to 6 p.c The expences of —

collecting the customs at Lima —

exceed 50,000 Dollars.

Table of the Commerce between the

Importation

Years	Spanish Effects	Foreign Dº	Total value
1781	114 „ 952 ½	309 „ 230 „ 3	424.183 . 3
1782	566 . 128 „ 1	633 . 435 . 3	1.199 . 653 „ 4
1783	695 . 295 . 7	1.049 . 348 „ 4	1.744 . 644 . 3
1784	1.020 . 434 „ 1	2.073 . 530 „ 4	3.093 . 964 „ 5
1785	2.318 . 448 „ 1	3.727 . 267 . 4	6.045 . 715 „ 5
1786	6.136 . 067 „ 4	7.630 . 681 „ 7	13.766 . 749 „ 3
1787	3.870 . 200 „ 7	2.911 . 898 „ 1	6.782 . 099 „ 1
1788	1.557 . 904 . 0	1.194 . 066 „ 7	2.751 . 967 „ 1
1789	1.209 . 196 „ 5	1.460 . 226 „ 3	2.669 . 423 „ 0
1790	2.297 . 964 . 4	2.465 . 499 „ 2	4.763 . 461 „ 6
	19.786.677.5½	23455.186 . 4	43.241 . 862 . 7

In the monies exported is included ———

Importation — 43. 241. 862. 7

Exportation — 54. 837. 114. 3

Ballance in favor of Exports — 11. 837. 251. 4

The excess of Exports was occasioned ———
occasioning the great Export of

Port of Spain and Callao

Exportation

Gold and Silver	Produce	Total
443.306	117.766.7	561.067.5
16.152.916.4¼	968.290.2½	17.121.206.6
7.144.325.2	732.587.4	7.877.912.6
8.285.659.7¾	882.807.1	9.168.467.0
4.518.246.3	906.022.–	5.424.268.3
5.463.973.1	579.160.2	6.043.133.3
2.449.945.6	523.080.0	2.972.575.6
5.220.387.2¾	448.095.1	5.668.482.3
49.678.305.1	5.158.809.1½	54.837.114.3

3.562.000 Dollars sent by the Royal Philipine Company

by the War 4 Ships arived in 1779 and sailed in 1784
that Year 17.121.206.6

1
123

The Kingdom of Chile* is comprised within the narrow strip of land, which extends E. and W. from the Summit of the Cordilleras de los Andes to the Pacific Ocean, and stretches along the Coast N. and S. from the River Salado, and the desert of Atacama to the ~~Straits~~ Straits of Magellan ~~between~~ From the Chain of frontier posts (which begin at Arauco on the coast, and extend to the Cordilleras) ~~to~~ to the town of Valdivia, the Country is in possession of the warlike tribe of Araucanians, who still remain independent; and from Osorno South, is inhabited by the various tribes of Palagonia, whose territories have not been explored.

The distance from the Cordilleras to the Pacific Ocean, is thirty leagues between the latitudes of 25° and 36° South; and forty leagues between 36° & 43° South. The Country comprised between the 25th and 43d degrees of South latitude, may be considered the length of the Kingdom of Chile, it being unsettled and even unexplored further South..

From the Cordilleras de los Andes to the Pacific, the inclination is so great, that all the rivers flow with the rapidity of torrents, and are therefore not navigable. They serve to irrigate the Valleys, and render them the most fertile in the World. The Climate makes this method of cultivation absolutely necessary; for from the River Salado to the Itata, that is from 25° to 36° of South latitude, not a cloud is to be seen above the horizon, from the month of November to the month of May. The Atmosphere, during this period, is —

* Most English and American Authors have copied the French in writing Chili, The Spaniards write and pronounce it Chile

perfectly clear, and the dews are scarcely perceptible; nor is the heat oppressive. The proximity of the Andes tempers the air, and the mercury fluctuates between 70° and 80° of Farenheit; and rarely rises to 85°. Thunder Storms, so frequent on the East of the Andes, are unknown in this part of Chile. Winter commences in the month of may; the cold is mild, and the rains gentle and unattended with wind. The rains of the Winter fertilize the hills; and the plains, which cannot be irrigated, during that Season afford pasture for the Cattle. The Spring commences in September; and the face of nature in Chile is then peculiarly beautiful. The hills are verdant and covered with innumerable flowering shurbs; and the plains present to the eye a carpet of flowers. The abundance of water and peculiarity of Climate enable the Inhabitants to raise all the fruits of the earth in great perfection. The Wheat, which is cultivated in the Vallies, is of excellent quality; and the produce seldom less than forty times the seed; Sometimes 90, and on the best land even 100. Indian corn is likewise cultivated and produces abundantly. Barley is raised in great quantity for the use of horses and mules, which in the Winter, are fed on this grain, mixed with chopped Straw, as in Arabia and in old Spain. Hemp and flax grow very luxuriantly. Cotton is here and there cultivated for their domestic manufactures; and there is one Sugar plantation. The Climate and Soil are well adapted to the culture of Sugar; but they have been long accustomed to get that article from Lima, in exchange for their wheat; and are not disposed to change their antient habits

Rice likewise would grow on their low lands; but it is brought from Lima.

South of the river Itata, the climate varies. Rains are frequent in the Summer; and in the Winter are attended by Storms of wind. The Grape, is chiefly cultivated in these Districts; and the Wine is better than where the Vineyards are irrigated.

The Olive grows luxuriantly throughout all Chile; and the Oil is of the first quality.

On the banks of the river Maule, and on all the Rivers South of 35° 17°, there is excellent timber, and the whole Country abounds with forests of a thorny Minosa, which makes ~~double~~ good Charcoal, and is in general use for fuel.

In the neighbourhood of Talcahuano within 500 Yards of the Sea, there is a fine vein of Sea Coal, which has been used by our whaling ships.

The Kingdom of Chile, was governed by a President and Captain General, who was amenable only to the Council of the Indies, and was assisted by an Audiencia, or Supreme Court. His powers were the same as the Viceroys of Lima, or of Buenos Ayres

There were two Bishopricks in Chile. That of Santiago, comprehended the territory from the River Salado to the Maule: And the Bishopric of Conception, included the Country from the Maule to the Island of Chiloe. The presidency was divided into districts (Partidos) governed each by a Subdelegate.

Copiapo, the most northern was the first conquered by the Peruvians, under the Incas, who extended themselves subsequently to the banks of the Maule.

The Spaniards followed the track marked out by the enterprize of this extraordinary people; and passing along the edge of the Cordilleras, descended into Chile by the mountains of Copiapo.

This district extends from the Cordilleras to the Sea. On the south it is separated from the Viceroyalty of Lima, by the desert and district of Atacama and extends north seventy leagues to the district of Guasco. The town of Copiapo is situated in 26° 50' South latitude, twenty leagues from the coast. It is small and inconsiderable; for the only part of this district capable of cultivation, is the narrow Valley which extends from the Cordilleras to the town, the river losing itself in the sands, between the town and the Ocean. South from the Hospederia de Yerba Buena, extends a desert tract (traversia) about thirty leagues to the borders of Guasco

La Caldera de Copiapo, the Port is situated in 26° 1' S. L.

The Wine of Copiapo is much esteemed, and is of excellent flavour, but has not body to keep any length of time.

The district of Guasco, extends from the Cordilleras to the Sea, and from that of Copiapo to the district of Coquimbo, occupying a line of coast of thirty leagues extent. The principal town is small, and situated about 16 leques from the Sea.

The Mines of Gold in this district have been abandoned; but those of

Copper produce annually 18 to 20,000 quintals. The King 5 12½ excersised the right of purchasing the Copper at 7 1/2 dollars per quintal, payable in Santiago. In consequence of this mono= poly, the Miners preferred disposing of it to the Smugglers, who gave them 14 dollars in Goods. The Minies of Silver, dis= covered in this district, in 1811, are the richest ever Known; the Veins which have been hitherto wrought, are near the Surface of the earth, and have yielded the extraordinary product of 40 marks, and sometimes even Seventy marks, to the Caxon of Ore. *

The port of Guasco is formed by two rocks running out from the island of Carnero, and Point Expedition. It is Situated in 28° 26' S. Lat. and 75° long. west of Cadiz

The district of Coquimbo extends from the Cordilleras to the Sea; it bounds N. on Guasco, and extends 50 leagues South

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* Note. The method of estimating the product in Potosi, Chile, & generally in Peru, is, by the Caxon of ore, which contains 50 quintals of 100 lb each. The marc of Silver is eight ounces of 8 ochavas; each ochava of 75 grains. The Caxon of ore at Guasco, produces 40 Marcks, or 320 ounces of Silver. — In Potosi 14 Marcs, is the Average or 112 ounces; and in Guanaxuato, the richest Mines of Mexico, the average is 4 ounces the quintal, or 200 ounces the Caxon

to the district of Cuscas. The Capital La Serena, commonly called Coquimbo, is situated in 29° 54' S. Lat. on the South bank of the River Coquimbo, within half a league of the Coast. The land slopes gradually from the town to the Sea, and being meadow, forms a lawn of never failing Verdure. The town is regular, and well built, and is surrounded with gardens, which produce all the tropical fruits in great perfection. The inhabitants are remarked for their urbanity and hospitality to Strangers; and the Climate is equal and temperate.

The River Coquimbo, waters the Valley of Hualque, the most fertile part of the district; and the Liman, which is a large Stream, waters the Country above and below the Juntas of Guamalata.

The Gold mine of Talca, which is situated in this district, is very productive. The Copper of Coquimbo is esteemed the best in the World, and contains a small portion of Gold. The French, formerly imported this Copper through Spain, and extracted the gold from it. Mining is carried on by voluntary labour; The Mita, or conscription of the unfortunate Indians, to toil in the mines, was never practised in Chile.

The port of Coquimbo, is formed by the head lands of Teatinos and Pelicanos; and is one of the best Known, and the most secure of the Pacific. It is situated in 29° 54' S. Lat.

The district of Cuscus extends from the Cordilleras to

the Sea, and from Coquimbo, South, to the district of Petorca. Rozas is the principal town.

The River Chuapo, fertilizes this district. Near where it falls into the Sea is a large Lake, abounding with fish.

The district of Petorca, extends from the Cordilleras, to the Sea, and from Cuscus, its Northern boundary, South to Quillota. The Capital is Petorca, sometimes called Santa Ana de Bribiesca. This district possesses Gold and Copper Mines, and is Watered by the Rivers Longotoma and Ligua. On the banks of the latter, stands the town of San Domingo de Rozas; and near it, the Settlement of Placilla. There is a large Indian town in the Valley called Valle hermoso. The Port of Valparaiso, is situated in 33°. 1'. 45". S. lat. It is the most frequented in Chile, although open to the N. and N.E. and to N.W. winds, which blow with great violence in the Winter, accompanied with a heavy Sea.

The town extends around the Bay, from the Castle of Saint Antonio, for nearly a mile, and is separated from the Almendral, (a Suburb of Valparaiso), by a low beach. The houses are irregularly scattered over the sides of steep hills, which rise abruptly from the shore, and extend along the Ravines of Saint Augustin, Saint Francisco and Gomez; the ground being very broken and Rugged. The Country, near the town is very barren, and all the supplies are drawn from Quillotta. That abundant district furnishes, at a very cheap rate, supplies for the Vessels that frequent Valparaiso.

Stock

Stock of every description, fruit, potatoes, Vegetables, and excellent biscuit, may be bought, at a very moderate price. The best water is brought from the Almendral, at some trouble and expense.

Untill the late revolution, the only commerce from this Port, was with Lima; between 40 and 60 Cargoes were brought annually, consisting of Fosil salt, Sugar, Rice, Cotton, and a coarse cotton Manufacture, called Toculla, and the returns made in wheat, hemp, beef and tallow, hides &c. &c.

The population of Valparaiso, including the Almendral does not exceed 6,500 souls

The district of Quillota, is bounded N. by Petorca, S. by the district of Melipilla, E. by that of Aconcagua, and W. by the Pacific Ocean. The principal town, San Martin de la Concha, commonly known by the name of Quillota, is situated on the S. bank of the River Quillota, near the River of Aconcagua. The Streets diverge from the principal Square, and intersect each other at right angles, and the houses are commodious and well built. The town occupies a great Space, each house having a garden adjoining, where the inhabitants raise Vegetables and fruit for the Supply of Valparaiso.

From the summit of an adjoining hill, the eye embraces a highly rich and variegated prospect of the town, interspersed with groves and gardens, and surrounded by extensive artificial pastures, principally of Lucerne, and the fields —

intersected by canals from the River, and cultivated in wheat, Corn, Hemp and flax. The cultivation in every part of Chile, as has been before observed is conducted by irrigation; and the Aconcagua here affords a plentiful supply of water. The climate is mild and healthy, and the inhabitants lively and hospitable. There are Mines of Gold and Copper in this district, although not wrought; and they make Oil and Wine. Petorca and Cuscus are included with Quillota, for all the purposes of [redacted] Government.

The Port of Herradura de Quintero, in 32° 47' 33" S. lat. and a little N. of Valparaiso, is one of the best and safest harbours in these Seas, being very extensive, with deep water, and clean anchorage. At the Punta de las Ventanas, is a good watering place, with abundance of wood; and the Country is beautiful and fertile.

The road direct to the Capital, is so rugged and mountainous, that this advantageous port has been neglected.

Any wind that permits you to approach the Coast will carry you in; and at the Anchorage you have only to avoid the Shoal of Tortuga.

The district of Melipilla, is bounded N. by that of Quillota, [redacted] by the River of Maipu; E. by the district of Mapocho; & extends W. to the pacific Ocean.

The Chief town, San José, commonly called Melipilla, is beautifully situated near the N. bank of the broad and rapid river of Maipo, which furnishes the means of irrigating an extensive and well cultivated Country. The road to Valparaiso, formerly passed through this town; the whole district is well settled, and highly cultivated in Wheat, Barley, Indian Corn, and Vines. It is watered by the rivers Maypo and Mapocho; on the latter is situated the small but flourishing town of Saint Francisco del Monte, the environs of which, for a considerable distance, are a vast garden, interpersed with Orchards and Vineyards. The Convent of Saint Francisco is endowed with extensive possessions. A little below the town, the Mapocho falls into the Maypo, and near the outlet of the latter, is the bay of Saint Antonio, in 33° 30′ S. lat. It is open to the north, and is very insecure.

The district of Mapocho, occupies an extensive plain, at the foot of the Andes; being bounded on the N. by Santa Rosa, S. by the River Maypo, [illegible]; E. by the Cordilleras, and W. by Melipilla.

The City of Santiago de Chile, is situated in this district, and was founded on the 12th of February 1541, by Don Pedro de Valdivia, on the S. bank of the Mapocho, in 33° 31′ S. lat. He, at first, called the Country, overrun by his arms, after his native province, Estremadura; and the Capital Santiago de Estremadura; but it soon lost this title, in the original name of

Chile. Santiago was founded on the lands belonging to the Ulmen, or Cacique Guelengala, whose jurisdiction extended from the River Chuapa on the N; to the River Maule on the S, and E. and W. from the Cordilleras to the Sea. The plain on which the City is situated, extends along the foot of the Andes, certainly to the Line; and, I believe, quite to the isthmus of Panamà N.; and S. to the ~~Straits~~ of Magellan. This is the only uniform level in Chile; from hence to the coast the descent is very rapid, and broken by irregular Mountains and Valleys. On the Eastern extremity of the City, rises the small rocky hill of Santa Lucia, formerly called the Mountain of Guelon. These insulated hills are frequently seen on the great plain of Chile

Santiago is divided into four Quartels. The Ministers of the Royal Audience were Chiefs of Quartels, and an Alcade, or Magistrate, in each, attended to the police, and reported to the Chief.

The Cabildo, or Municipal Council, is composed of a Royal Standard-bearer, (who carries the Standard of Santiago, on the festival of that Saint;) an Alguasil, Alcade of the province; two Regidores and Fiel Executors, which are permanent Offices, and are sold to the highest bidder; and so fond are the people of distinction, that they are purchased at a high price. These chuse two ordinary Alcades, or Magistrates of the province, who have juridiction in ordinary cases, and whose duty it

is to keep the peace.

The tribunal of Commerce, [redacted] is composed of a Prior, two Consuls, an Assessor, or Syndic, and nine Counsellors. These are chosen every two years, and have jurisdiction in all commercial causes. They have a fund arising from internal taxes, and from fees; and are charged nominally with every thing relating to Commerce, and to the Superintendance of Roads and Harbours.

A broad road extends round the South side of the town, like the Boulevards in Paris, and seperates it from the Suburbs, which are extensive and well built. There are several handsome Churches and Convents in this Canada, and a large canal carries a Stream of water along the South side of it. North from the principal Square, a wide Street leads to the bridge over the Mapocho, which is built of Stone and brick, and stands on nine lofty Arches. The view from it, along the banks of the Mapocho, and towards the Andes, is very picturesque; and the inhabitants resort to this Bridge, in the Summer afternoons, to enjoy the refreshing air from the mountains. The River is broad and shallow, and in the Summer, flows in several channels; but in the Spring of the year, when swollen by the melting of the Snows, it rises to the height of the Arches; and has at times overflowed, and laid half the City under water. A dyke has been built along the banks of the River, to protect the City from these inundations. It is a solid wall, about five feet thick, with a parapet.

For the Ecclesiastical government of the City, the town

is divided into four Curacies viz: the Cathedral, Santa Ana, San Isidro and San Lazaro. The jurisdiction belongs exclusively to the Bishop who is assisted by an Ecclesiastical Cabildo, composed of the canons, and presided by the Provisor, who is the chief of the Ecclesiastical Court, and the Director of the Convents of Nuns. There are seven Nunneries, and Seven Convents of Monks, in Santiago

The Monks of San Juan de Dios, have two large hospitals, one for men, with the Church of San Juan de Dios, attached to it in the Suburbs of the Cañada; and one for Women, annexed to the Chapel of San Borja. These orders have all vast Estates, both, in Lands, which they farm themselves, and which are always well cultivated, and in Mortgages, which they hold to a great amount.

The district of Santa Rosa is separated from Aconcagua on the north by the river of Aconcagua, on the South it borders on the district of Maipocho, East on the Cordilleras and West on Quillota. Its Capital Santa Rosa de los Andes is situated on the road from Santiago to Mendoza.

The district of Rancagua is bounded North by the Maipo which separates it from that of Maipocho, South by the Cachapoal which divide it from Colchagua, and it extends East and West from the Cordilleras to the Sea.

The Capital of this district Santa Cruz de Triana, commonly called Rancagua is in 34° S.ᵈ lat. 26 leaguesᵉ south of Santiago. It stands near the north bank of the Cachapoal, which after its confluence with the Tinguiririca takes the name of Rapel. This is a very fertile district exporting grain and cattle and fruits. There are several gold mines which have been abandoned; but the Silver mine of Copana is still very productive.

The district of Colchagua extends East and West from the Cordilleras to the Sea: and from the River Cachapoal on the North, to the districts of Curico, and Maule on the South. Colchagua is very fertile and well cultivated the principal export is Wheat. Some Gold and Copper have been found this district. The warm Mineral Springs of Cauquenes are situated in the Mountains of ~~Rancagua~~ Colchagua, and are much frequented by the Inhabitants of Santiago during the Summer. San Fernando the Capital is situated on the N. bank of the Tinguiririca

The district of Curico extends from the Cordilleras to the Sea. It borders North on the district of Colchagua and South on that of Maule. The Villa de San José de Buena Vista more commonly known by the name of the district is the Capital.

The District of Maule extends from the Cordilleras to the Sea: It borders north on Curico, and on the South is separated from the Isla de Maule, and from Cauquenes by the broad and rapid river Maule. The banks of this river are covered with Timber & there is a ship yard at Bilboa near its mouth The entrance of the river is obstructed by a bar.

Talca is the principal town of this district.
There are still some Lavaderos for gold in Maule, the
Mountain of Chibato near Talca has been very productive.
The District of the Isla de Maule extends from the
Cordilleras to the district of Cauquenes. It is bounded
on the north by the river Maule and south by the
district of Chillan. The town of Linares is situated
in this district between the rivers Putagan and Longavi
and the town of Parral is on the South of the Longavi.
The district of Cauquenes extends from the Isla de Maule
its Eastern boundary to the pacific Ocean, It borders north
on the river Maule and South on the district of Itata.
The chief town La Merceded de Manso, commonly called
Cauquenes is situated on the stream of Tutuben. The town
of Bilboa at the mouth of the Maule is in this district.
The district of Chillan extends from the Cordilleras to
to the district of Itata, and bounds north on the
Isla de Maule. The town of San Carlos is situated between
the Longavi and the Nuble: and Chillan the capital
between the Nuble & in the ~~Itata~~ via Chillan in 35°. 56' S. L. & 71°
.. 5' W. L. This town is well built and is ornamented by
several Churches, & Convents. The Monks of Chillan own
almost all the Lands in this district, which is very fertile
and productive. There is a manufacture of woollen cloths
at Chillan.
The District of Itata borders East on that of Chillan

, West on the Sea, and North of the district of Cauquenes. The fine river of Itata flows through this district. The chief town of Itata is Cuelemu. Quirique is likewise situated in this district, which is famous for the excellence of its wine.

The District of Rere extends from the Cordilleras to the district of Puchacay. It borders North on Itata and South on the military frontier posts. The chief town is San Luis Gonzaga, formerly known by the names of Buena Esperanza, and Estancia del Rey.

The District of the Isla de La Laja is comprised in the strip of land between the Rivers La Laja and Biobio, and is surrounded by the Cordilleras of the Andes. It is very fertile and productive. Los Angeles is the chief town and has a Citadel being one of the frontier posts. There are three passes in the Cordilleras from this district Antuco, Villacura, and Cuinco which are fortified against the Indians.

The district of Puchacay borders East on that of Rere, West on Conception, South of the River Bio-bio and North on the Itata. The chief towns in this district are Hualqui and Florida. The country is rugged and mountainous but produces good Wheat and Wine.

Conception de Chile: This district borders East & North on that of Puchacay. On the South it is bounded by the

The river Biobio and extends on the west to the pacific.
The City of Conception was founded by Don Pedro de Valdivia
in the year 1550 and was built in the Valley of Penco. It was
repeatedly destroyed by the Araucanians and rebuilt by the
Spaniards on the same spot. After the Earthquake in November
1774 which laid the city in ruins, the present City of Conception
was built about 3 leagues South of the former position on the
Mocha. This town is the See of a Bishop, whose jurisdiction
extended from the river Maule to the Southern extremity
of Chile. There is a small town erected on the ruins of the
former capital, called Penco.

Talcahuano on the bay of Conception is situated in 36°.41'.50"
and in 66°.53'.30" W. Long from Cadiz. This is the largest and most
secure port on the coast of Chile. It is protected on the
North by the Island of Quiriquina. The Channel between the
North point of Quiriquina, and the point of Lobería is the best
entrance to this bay & is called the Boca grande, the other
Channel or Boca chica has sufficient depth of water; but
a Shoal which runs out in a Westerly direction from
the Island, renders its approach more dangerous.
The best anchorage is at the South Western extremity of
the bay, opposite the town of Talcahuano. There is good
Anchorage under the South side of the Island of
Quiriquina. There is a chain of Military Posts

extending from the Pacific to the Cordilleras
The first is Arauco on the Sea coast where there
is a small bay a few leagues South of Talcahuano
San Pedro on the South side of the Bio-bio opposite
the town of Concepcion.
Talcamavida a small fort. Yumbel a fortress
with a small well built town. Alesavida a fort
San Carlos a town defended by a fort.
Santa Barbara a fortress situated in the passage of
the Cordilleras by which the Indians called Pehuenches
pass into Chile to traffic with the Spaniards
The River Bio-bio was settled as the Boundary of the
Araucanians at the peace of Negrete. This river
falls into the sea in 36°. 50' South Lat.
The Territory occupied by the warlike tribes
of Araucania is divided into four provinces, which
they call Meli Guatalmapu: it extends from
36° 50' S. L. to the ~~[illegible]~~ River Tolten in 39°. S. L.
and from the Cordilleras de los Andes to the pacific
Ocean. These provinces are divided by lines running
North and South. The first Laiquen Mapu, or
district of the Sea, is Araucania proper and is
inhabited only by that warlike nation. The

Spanish fortresses of Arauco, San Pedro, Colcura, Tucapel
~~[illegible]~~ formerly stood in this district: they were all
abandoned at the conclusion of Peace except San Pedro.
The bay of Arauco is a tolerable roadstead, and the port of Carnero, and the
mouth of the river Cauten afford shelter to the shipping on this coast. ——
A chain of Mountains separate this district ~~[illegible]~~ of Lauquen
Mapu from that of Lelbun Mapu, which occupies an
extensive plain extending from the base of the mountains in a west
wardly direction to Ynapire Mapu. The only town or rather
fortress which the Spaniards now possess in this district is Santa
Juana. They were driven from the posts of Millapoa, Santa Cruz
de Coya; and evacuated the fortress of Puren, which was
situated 15 leagues from the Sea and 40 leagues South of the
Biobio. They were forced to abandon the City of Imperial
which they had built ~~[illegible]~~ on the banks of the river
Cauten about 12 leagues from the Sea:
The district of Ynapire Mapu extends along the
Plain at the foot of the Andes. Nacimiento, Mallen,
Corve, Chacaico, Duecheraguay, and Guanagua
were situated in this district. The Spaniards now
occupy only the fortress of Nacimiento on the S.ern side
of the Biobio between the rivers Bergara & Tubumleu.
The Missionary settlements on the rivers Mallaco, and those on
the Tolhaguen and Maquehue have been abandoned.
The district of Rio Quitalmapu is situated in the

Cordilleras de los Andes, and is inhabited by the Pehuenches, whose territory extends from the forth of Santa Barbara and occupies the vallies of the Cordilleras.

This Ontalmapu formerly extended from the river Maule and the Pehuenches occupied the sources of the Maule, Longavi. a few still remain about the sources of the rivers Retamel, Renegado, and Rico. They now chiefly reside in the vallies of Antuco, Villacura, Quinco, and about the sources of the river Tolten.

The Huilli-Mapu is the district of country south of the river Tolten from the Andes to the sea. It includes the Eastern vallies of the Cordilleras. The Huillichey divide this extensive Ontalmapu into four districts. The first is Tolten, and extends from South bank of that river to the river Valdivia. and from the Eastern side of the Andes to the sea.

The second district stretches along the coast from the river Valdivia to the Archipelago of Chiloe. the Inhabitants are called the tribe of Cuncos.

The third District occupies the plains from the Cordilleras to the province of the Cuncos and extends North and South from the river

– Valdivia to the river Sin Fondo in 44° South Lat.

The Inhabitants of this district are called

Onta = Huilliches.

The last Division extends South from the river Sin Fondo, as far as is known of the Southern ~~Country~~ Continent: and is inhabited by the Huayquenes. The Spanish Authority represents this Country as thinly inhabited by a wandering wretched and barbarous people.

The town of Villarica or the Totten has been abandoned by the Spaniards, and the fort of San José of Mariquina was destroyed by the Indians.

The fort of Cruseo on the river of the same name is still occupied by the Spaniards.

There are three Missionary Settlements, one at Totten el bajo, called St Francisco del Solano one at Niebla, and one called St Antonio de Guanahue on the South bank of the river Calla calla or as it is called by the Spaniards the river Valdivia. There is a Missionary Settlement in the province of the Cuncos and another twenty leagues to the East of the City of Valdivia, called Nuestra Señora de Pilar –

There are several Lakes in these districts at the foot of the Andes. The river Valdivia takes its rise from the Lake of Guanegue. Rio bueno from the Lake of Rolnco; at the head of the Lake which give rise to the river Chico, there are warm Sulphureous springs.

Expeditions have been sent from Valdivia to explore the Lakes of Penegue, and Llayquihue, and to discover the remaining Inhabitants of Villarica & Osorno, who are reported to have taken refuge near these Lakes after the destruction of their towns. These expeditions failed in their object. The last party ascended the Volcano of Ribahanco, but have no particular account of that mountain.

Mehuin is a roadstead situated in 39°. 26'. S.° Lat and 67°. 7'. 30" Long W. of Cadiz. It is only frequented by small Vessels, or by ships driven to leeward of Valdivia by the South wind. It is formed by the Island of Silla and the point of Sembrados -

The Island of La Mocha is separated from the Continent by a Channel six leagues wide. The Centre of the Island is in 38°. 22'. 25 S.° Lat. and 67°. 45'. 30" Long W. of Cadiz.

There are two Anchorages on the coast of La Mocha; one near the S. E. point called the Anegadiza in six or seven fathoms: here there is a good landing. The other is near the English Creek in ~~thirteen~~ fathoms. This Island affords an abundant supply of wood and water, and is well stocked with goats and hogs. —

The Island of Santa Maria is separated from the Continent by a Channel 4391 toises wide. The Centre of the Island lies in 37°. 3'. 4" S.° Lat. and 67°. 22' long W. of Cadiz

There is a harbour on the north side of the Island and one on the South. The latter is the most secure, and possesses the advantage of a safe landing at the punta de Aguada: where supplies may be obtained of water, wood, apples, Quinces, ~~Peaches~~ Celery & Sorrel—

The Archipelago of Chiloe, with some inconsiderable settlements on the opposite shore constitute the province of Chiloe, which is attached to the Vicerozalty of Lima. The Chilotes, as the Inhabitants of this province are called, are of diminutive stature: and as far as my observations extended, the ~~[illegible]~~ (Old, bleak) climate of the Southern Hemisphere has the same effect on the growth of animals and plants, as that of the North. ~~[illegible]~~—

~~[illegible]~~. The Inhabitants subsist principally by fishing. They navigate these

stormy seas in Piraguas, boats often and fifteen tons, made of planks bound together with twisted fibres, and ~~pitched~~ the seams pitched over. The Dobato abounds in the bays and harbours. It is salted and sent to Lima. They ~~[illegible]~~ manufacture excellent Camblets, coarse woollen stuffs and Ponchos, which they dye with a great variety of colours. Their principal trade is in boards, and lumber, which they send to Lima, and receive in return oil, salt, Brandy, Herb of Paraguay, Sugar, and dry goods. —

The City of Valdivia is situated on the South bank of the river Valdivia about five leagues from the sea. It was founded by Don Pedro de Valdivia in 1552 and was destroyed by the Araucanians in 1599. In the year 1639 the Dutch landed at this place and attempted to rebuild the town; but the decided hostility of the natives forced them to abandon their purpose.

The ensuing year a Spanish Squadron, which had been fitted out to expell the Dutch, entered the Bay of Valdivia, The town was rebuilt and fortified. It is now a frontier fortress, and is the Presidio for Criminals, who are transported here from Peru & Chile. It is attached to the Presidency of Chile, from whence it receives an annual supply of money, clothing and provisions. An annual ship supplies the Inhabitants with Sugar, the Herb of Paraguay, brandy, and dry goods, and carries off boards and Lumber. — The Settlements are extended to Rio bueno, where they pasture some cattle and raise vegetables.

The port of Valdivia is situated in 39°. 49'. 17" S°. Lat. and 67°. 19'. 15" Long W. of Cadiz. The Intrance is well fortified. The bay of Corral is the best anchoring ground.

Osorno was founded by Don — Garcia while Governor of Valdivia. It is situated in the Huilli Mapus in 41°. S. Lat. Six leagues South of Rio bueno, and on the banks of the river Camogay this town was destroyed by the Indians, and towns of Carel mapu and Calbuco were ~~after~~ founded by the Fugitives.

136

Osorno was rebuilt in 1796 by the Captain General Ohiggins and is now a flourishing settlement. The town of San Jose de Alcudia was built at the same time, in the plains of Molino, on the North bank of Rio bueno about ten leagues from Osorno.

A road was opened from Valdivia to the Archipelago of Chiloe, by the garrison of Valdivia and a party of Indians. They began at Rayque and in little more than three months completed the road to the Fort of Maullin the last Spanish settlement on the Continent to the South, and situated opposite the North point of the Island of Chiloe.

The Eastern Island of Caylin in 43°. 34' S. Lat opposite the lofty peak of the Corcobado is inhabited by some few Spanish descendants.

The portuguese claim the Northern shore of the river of La Plata, by right of discovery and the Spanish authors are so very contradictory in their dates, of the first voyages to it, as to make it doubtful to an impartial reader. They generally agree that the gold and Silver which Sebastian Cabot procured from the Guanani Indians in the year 1526 had been taken from some portuguese adventurers, who were returning from Peru. and that in 1535 Pedro de Mendoza found a party of Portuguese on the Northern Shore of the La Plata. The portuguese accounts attribute the first discovery and settlement of that Territory to their Countrymen Alexis & Diego Garcia. In the year 1680 the Portuguese formed a Settlement on the Northern Shore of the river, and erected the fort of Colonia del Sacramento directly opposite Buenos Ayres. the same year they were driven out of it by the Spaniards, but it was restored by the provisional treaty of 1681. In 1705 Colonia was again invested from the Portuguese & was restored to them by the peace of Utrecht in 1715. whereas Monte video & Maldonado were not settled by the Spaniards until the year 1724. The Portuguese had not entirely driven from their possessions on the Northern Shore of the river until the year 1762 Colonia was besieged & taken by the Spaniards in 1762, but was again given up by the treaty of Paris of 1763. The Portuguese were not entirely driven from their possession on the Northern Shore of the river until the year 1777 and the right of territory has remained a subject of dispute ever since. Commissioners have been appointed & have frequently met, but have not been able to settle the claims of their respective Courts. To the long residence of one of these unsuccessful Commissioners Azara, we owe an excellent work on the Zoology of those Countries —

called by the natives Paranà guaçù, Great Paranà

The river of La Plata was discovered by the Spaniards under the conduct of Don Juan Diaz de Solis in the year 1516. *
The earliest establishment appears to have been made on its shores in 1526 by Sebastian Gabot a venitian navigator in the service of Spain, and the town of Buenos Ayres to have been first settled in 1535 by Don Pedro de Mendoza. After being twice destroyed by the Indians, it was rebuilt in 1580, and has flourished since that period.
Buenos Ayres was at first annexed to the government of Paraguay ~~until~~, and afterwards made dependant upon the vicaroalty of Lima and the audiencia of Charcas. In the year 1776 The provinces of Buenos Ayres, Paraguay and Cuyo were united under the government of a Viceroy. In 1778 the provinces of upper Peru were added to the vicaroalty of Buenos Ayres. It extended on the North to the frontiers of the Brazils, and to the vicaroyalty of Lima, where it ~~was~~ bounded on the provinces of Cochabaya, Cuzco & Chucuito; and westwardly on the river Desaguadero and the province of Arica. It included the district of Atacama which extends along the Pacific ocean from Arica to the desert of Atacama. On the west it was separated from Chile by the Cordilleras de los Andes, and extended South to the Straits of Magellan.
By the decree of 1778 this vicaroyalty was divided into eight Intendencias. Each Intendencia was subdivided into Partidos or districts.

7

The Intendency of Buenos Ayres includes the town of Santa Fè situated between the river Salado and the Paranà, in 31°. 40′ S°. Lat. : Corrientes situated on the east side of the Paranà near it's junction with the Paraguay in 27°. 23′ S°. The military government of Monte Video situated on the north east shore of the river of La Plata in 34°. 54′. 43″ S°. Lat. and in 56°. 9′. 15″ long. west of Greenwich. The territory of the eastern shore of the Uruguay. or Banda Oriental, together with the thirty towns of the Guaranis missions on the river Uruguay, which formerly belonged to the Jesuits. And the territory of the rio negro in Patagonia which is occupied by a chain of military posts extending from Luxan to the port of Rio Negro. Buenos Ayres the capital is situated in 34°. 35′. 26″ S°. Lat. and in 58°. 31′. 15″ W. long. It is the See of a Bishop and includes thirty four Curacies.

The principal articles of export from Buenos Ayres are Hides, Tallow, Horns, Skins, Bark, Vicuña wool, Copper and the precious metals. Buenos Ayres is supplied with Salt, from the Salt Lakes in Patagonia, by annual Caravans

The Intendency of Paraguay extends on the north and eastern bank of the river Paraguay to the river Corrientes, which falls into the Paraguay, and to the mouth of the Jauru in 16°. 34′. 22″ S°. Lat. On the east to the Brazils. On the South to the river Paranà from it's confluence with the Paraguay to the river Guarupiraro, which falls into it a little to the west of the town of Candelaria. Thence the line runs to the mountains of Santa Ana including the towns of Candelaria, Santa Ana, Loreto, San. Ignacio Mini, and Corbus.

This Intendency embraces the districts of Candelaria Santiago, Villarica, Curuguati and Villareal.

Paraguay is the See of a Bishop and includes twelve Vicarages. The exports from this Intendency are Sugar Cotton, Tobacco, and the Herb of Paraguay commonly called Maté, from the Calabash in which it is served. The two last are the principal articles.

The capital town Assumption is situated in 25°. 16'. 46" S. Lat.

The Intendency of Cordova extends to the district of Tucuman on the north. West to the Intendency of Buenos Ayres and on the East is bounded by Paraguay. It includes the Districts of Mendoza, San Juan, San Luis, and Rioja.

The town of Cordova is the capital and is situated in 31°. 15'. S°. Lat.

Mendoza is situated on a river of the same name, at the foot of the Cordilleras in 33°. 31'. 17" So. Lat.

The principal articles exported from this Intendency are grain fruits, wine and Brandy. The Bishopric of Cordova includes eight Vicarages

The Intendency of Salta extends on the North to the district of Tarija in Potosi; On the South to Cordova. West to the Cordilleras; and East to the grand Chaco. The districts of this Intendency are Tucuman, Santiago del Estero, Catamarca, Jujui, Nueva Oran and Puna.

Salta the Capital is situated 24°. 30 S Lat.

San Miguel the chief town of the district of Tucuman is situated in 27°. 10' South. The Bishopric of Cordova includes eight Vicarages. — The principal trade of this intendency consists of Horses and Mules. —

The Intendency of Potosi extends on the north to the districts of Yamparaes, and Tomina in Charcas. South to the district of Jujui in Salta: it reaches west to the Pacific ocean, and is bounded on the East by Cochabamba. The districts of this Intendency are Porco, Chayanta, Chicas, Tarija, Lipes, and Atacama: which last is separated from the province of Arica by the river Loa, and from Chile by the desert of Atacama. The precious metals constitute the principal exports of this Intendency.

Potosi the capital town is situated on the north side of the celebrated mountain of that name in 19°. 50' South Latitude & 66°. 16' W.L.

From the year 1736 to 1800 the tenths from the produce of the mines of Potosi amounted to 18. 618. 917 dollars. –

The Intendency of Charcas, sometimes called the Presidency of Charcas from being the seat of a Royal Audiencia, or supreme court, extends north to the Intendency of La Paz; South to Potosi, West to the Desaguadero, and East to the Intendency of ~~La Paz~~ the Cochabamba. This Intendency comprehends the districts of Yamparaes, Tomina, Pilaya and Oruro. Charcas is an Archbishopric and contains fourteen Vicarages. The Capital Chuquisaca, called also La Plata is situated in 19°. 25.

This Intendency abounds in minerals, Salt, Sulphur, &c. –

The Intendency of La Paz extends north to the provinces of Carabaya and Cuzco in the Vicerovalty of Lima. South to Charcas, West to the provinces Chucuito, and Arica. and on the East is bounded by the government of Moxos and the Intendency of Cochabamba.

The districts of this Intendency are Sicasica, Pacages, Omasuyos (to which is annexed the Island of Titicaca, in the lake of Chucuito) Larecaxa, Chulumani, and Apolobamba.

The bishopric of La Paz comprehends thirteen vicarages.

La Paz the capital of the Intendency is situated in 16°. 50′ South Lat.

The chief produce is the peruvian Bark, and an herb called Coco, which the Indians and Creoles chew, and are very fond of. It is an article of Export to the other provinces.

The Intendency of Cochabamba extends on the North to the government of Moxos. South it is bounded by the Intendencies of Charcas and Potosi; West by Charcas and La Paz; and East by the River Parapiti, which separates it from the government of Chiquitos.

The districts of this Intendency are Santa Cruz de la Sierra Valle grande, Mizque, Elisa, Angue, Tapacari, Hayopaya and Sacaba.

The Bishopric of Santa Cruz de la Sierra comprehends three vicarages, and four Curacies.

Cochabamba is the most fertile of all the Intendencies and is called the granary of Upper Peru. Orepesa the capital is situated in 17°. 2′ S. Lat.

The military Government of Chiquitos extends North to the mountains of Tapacures, which divide it from Moxos: South to the mountains of Zamucay: West to the district of Santa Cruz de la Sierra; and is bounded on the East by the lake Xarayes.

This government is inhabited principally by Indians, there are some missionary settlements among them

The military Government of Moxos is very extensive. Sepa-
rated from Cochabamba by the Condilleras it extends
South to Chiquitos, and East to the frontiers of the Brazils.
It is divided into three districts Moxos, Baures, and
Pampas, and is inhabited by the Tribes of the Baches,
Sirionas, Solostros, and Juracares, among whom are
some missionary Settlements.

There are several small harbours and road
steads in the river of La Plata. Maldonado situated
on the North Eastern shore is not far from the Capes, and
is said to be the best port in the river. The next, is
the Port of Montevideo is exposed to the S.West
winds which sweep over the plains of Buenos
Ayres and blow with incredible violence.
There are several inconsiderable roadsteads between
Montevideo and the Ensenada de Barragan, the first
good harbour on the S. Western shore of the river. This
port is easy of access and is protected on every side. The only
Objection to ships lying there in preference to the insecure
roadstead opposite the town of Buenos Ayres, is the low
swampy land which surrounds Barragan and renders
the roads always bad, and in the winter almost impassa-
ble. There was a deduction of 4½ p.c. from the duties on
goods landed at this port, in order to defray the expence of
transportation to Buenos Ayres.
There is a small stream about two miles and a half below
Buenos Ayres, which is navigable to Baracca. From hence lighters

convey the cargoes to the outer roads. The entrance of this creek is obstructed by a bar, and during the prevalence of Westwardly winds, there is not water enough even for the lighters to pass. This circumstance often occasions great detention in loading.

The tides extend a great distance up the river, but their duration depends upon the winds. Indeed the currents are so very uncertain & run with such rapidity, that it is adviseable to heave the log with a lead attached to the line.

The City of Buenos Ayres is built on the South ~~west~~ shore of the river and ~~stretches~~ extends along the bank nearly three miles. The streets intersect each other at right angles dividing the town into solid squares of 150 yards each. The houses are generally two stories high and are built with terrace roofs. The city is defended by a fort, and is ornamented by Convents, Nunneries, Churches, and the buildings formerly appropriated to the royal monopolies. The Population of Buenos Ayres and of the adjacent Country was estimated at about 70.000 souls.

The Climate is healthy and temperate. The northerly winds when moderate, last for several days, and have the effect of the Sirocco on the feelings. When violent this wind seldom lasts longer than twenty four hours, shifting to the South and South East with rain and thunder. These storms are invariably terminated by a Pampero or South West wind. The West and West North West winds blow with great violence, but are not frequent. During the prevalence of the S.W. westwardly winds the atmosphere is remarkably dry, and the electric fluid acquires very great activity.

On passing the low ridge which skirts the river, the eye extends over an immense plain spotted with a few settlements,

and Inclosures of the Cylindrical Opuntia which attains a great height in this climate. Orchards of Peach trees are cultivated to supply the town with fuel. The trees are planted very close to each other and are kept low, so as to resist the force of the winds, which tear up larger trees.

The uncultivated plains in the vicinity of the City are overgrown with the wild Artichoke. This weed grows with such luxuriance that, in the great scarcity of fuel, it is used to heat Stoves & Ovens.

These Plains or Pampas extend one hundred and sixty leagues in a West course from Buenos Ayres. They resemble very much the Steppes of the South of Russia. Both exhibit the same boundless unbroken expanse, the same fertility of the soil during the rainy season, and dry parched appearance in the heat of Summer: the total absence of trees: the streams few, flowing with a sluggish current and brackish to the taste: the lakes and ponds of both encrusted with salt. This mineral effloresces on the surface of the soil, in some places giving the appearance of being covered by a keen frost.

The Character of the Inhabitants adds to the resemblance. The Querandis or Indians of the Pampas, are Nomades, living in temporary huts and tents on the borders of the rivers; and when they have exhausted the pasture on one spot, roving with their flocks and herds to where it is abundant.

The small deer of the Pampas resembles the Antelope of the Steppes: and the Spur winged Vlegel is common to both.

On these plains Animal putrefaction scarcely goes on at all, On the borders of the rivers, and in low, wet places the Entrails of Animals putrefy

but on the high lands, animal substances will and dry
upon. This is the case in some parts of Spain & Portugal
but at Buenos Ayres, where fuel is so scarce, this
drying quality in the air enables the inhabitants
to burn in their furnaces and kilns, the flesh and
bones of animals. Sheep were formerly dried, tallow
and sold at two dollars and a half the hundred
for these purposes. —

From the mildness of the Climate, and the abundant pasture afford-
-ed by the extensive plains
of Buenos Ayres, the Cattle originally brought from Spain, have become so numerous that they furnish the chief support of the Inhabitants. This, is perhaps the cause of the miserable State of the interior of this Country. It is not uncommon to see a proprietor of a league Square of land, owning several thousand head of Cattle, and Sheep and horses, living in a miserable hut, and having only the bare necessaries of life. His house is covered with hides. His furniture is made of the same material. His yard is enclosed by a few Stakes bound together with thongs; and he may be seen with his herdsmen, seated by a fire, cutting off Slices of beef from a spit stuck in the ground; and eating it, without bread or salt.

In the Vicinity of Buenos Ayres, there are some very productive farms; and wheat and corn are raised in great abundance, by simply Scratching the ground with a wooden plough, and harrowing in the grain by drawing over it a hide filled with earth. Even in the center of the plains there are some spots cultivated in grain; but the distance from a market prevent their raising more than Sufficient for their own consumption.

The eastern Shore of the river of the Uruguay including the bottom of La Plata ~~La Plata~~ abounds with Cattle; and most of the Inhabitants are Shepherds. Where the land is cultivated, it has been found very productive; and this territory was the most valuable of the Intendency of Buenos Ayres.

Paraguay is an agricultural Province; and the domestic manufactures Supply all the wants of the Inhabitants. The effects of the government of the Jesuits is still felt in this Country. The people generally receive

the rudiments of Education, and are very subordinate to their leaders. They were organised into Regiments of Militia and it is said, that Paraguay can bring into the field upwards of 40.000 men.

Many of the Provinces of upper Peru, posses Mines, and the population is divided between the Wealthy proprietors, the Speculators and those who work in the mines; and here is to be found all the corruption and misery, which are inseparable from this species of gambling.

Cochabamba, and some others Provinces, are agricultural; and the Inhabitants are active and intelligent. During the time upper Peru was in the power of the Royalists, the Spirit of the revolution has been kept up in these provinces by the Guerillas of Cochabamba

In the city of Buenos Ayres, Property is equally divided. There are no very large Proprietors; no entailed Estates, and but little property in Mortmain. The Inhabitants are generally well informed; and their intercourse with foreigners has given them habits of Industry.

There is very little mixture of blood in Buenos Ayres; and there are only three Casts; the Creoles, Indians and Negroes. Notwithstanding this Port was for sometime the Entrepot of the African trade, very few slaves remained at Buenos Ayres; And the Government has been able to emancipate them, without any serious injury to Society.

Previous

Previous to the late Revolution the means of Education were with-held from the Creoles. It is true that there were Colleges at Cordova, Chuquisaca and Santiago de Chile, where the Student was taught Latin, Law* and Theology; but they were prohibited from reading any book that could enlarge their views, or give them an idea of their civil or political rights. Every work that bore the Stamp of Genius, was prohibited by the Inquisition. It was considered sinful to read any book marked with the Censure of the Church; and was deemed an act of piety to denounce any one who was Known to posses such a work.

When this restraint was removed, they read eagerly the theories of speculative politicians; and the Controversies and attacks on the Christian religion published at the Commencement of the French Revolution. They saw the monstrous absurdity of the doctrines which had been taught them; and they too often Stopped there, and became Sceptics in Religion, And in politics wild and theoretical. Their Legislators were ignorant of the principles of political Economy, and of the common Maxims of the Science of Legislation

In the first Government, the Executive and Legislative powers were vested in the Deputies of Buenos Ayres. Next in an Assembly of all the Deputies from the Chief Towns. This Assembly transferred their executive powers to a Junta of three, and ~~they called~~ filled themselves the

* The practice of the Law in these Countries was not, as in the United States, an open appeal to impartial justice; but the art of multiplying acts and procrastinating a suit, into the favor of the Judge was secured by Bribery & Influence.

Sovereign Assembly, declaring the Executive and Magistrates subordinate to them. The Executive refused to acknowledge their Sovereignty, and published an Estatuto or provisional Constitution.

By this Constitution, one Member of the Executive resigned his Office, at the expiration of every Six months, and no one could act as President for a longer period. The new Members were to be elected by an Assembly composed of the Municipality, of the Representatives of the Towns, and of a considerable number of Citizens elected by the people of the Capital, according to the manner to be hereafter prescribed by this Government. The Government formed a high Court of Appeal.

They decreed the liberty of the press, and the Security of Individuals from illegal arrests. These decrees have been renewed by each successive Government; but the people of these Countries never have enjoyed the freedom of the press, or individual Security.

This Junta took the tittle of the Superiour provisional Government of the United provinces of the River of La Plata, in the name of Ferdinand the Seventh. —— Pamphlet N°. 1, contains the Constitution and the decrees.

Shortly after this Estatuto was published, the Assembly was dissolved. After dissolving another Assembly, this Government was abolished, and a Supreme Director chosen.

The Congress afterwards assembled, and confirmed this form of Government; and the same men who voted to deprive the President of the first Junta, of all distinctions, and whose fears were excited by his having an Escort of 25 dragoons, have vested the Supreme Director

with regal powers, and have given him a guard of three hundred Select Cavalry.

In all these changes the people have borne but little part. In a Capital containing upwards of 50,000 Inhabitents, Not more than five or six hundred have ever voted, and the town-meetings which generally decided strange Rulers, and often the form of government, were rarely composed of more than two or three hundred; sometimes of less than one hundred persons.

Since the Commencement of the Revolution, there has been a constant struggle for power, between the Capital and the Provinces.

Buenos Ayres has hitherto maintained the ascendancy, from the Superiour intelligence of the Inhabitants; and from having within itself the means of carrying on the war. The duties on Imports and Exports furnish the principal resources of the Government; and the Leaders of the revolution are for the most part, Citizens of Buenos Ayres.

The Provinces are Governed by a Commander appointed by the Executive of Buenos Ayres. Paraguay first revolted from this dependence on the Capital. And from the commencement of the revolution to the present day has been governed by its own Chiefs. They are not at war with Buenos Ayres, but have no connexion, nor hold any communication with that Government. They too have tried a great many political experiments, and their present form of Government is copied from the ancient Roman. It consists of a Senate and two Consuls. Francea, the principal leader in the Revolution is said to govern that Country despotically.

As in Buenos Ayres the constitutional restrictions have been found

a feeble check to the arbitrary exercise of military power.

~~The Inhabitants of Paraguay were organised into a Republic, and it is reported that they are living in the strictest state of Neutrality~~

The Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore of La Plata have refused to submit to the Capital, and have successfully opposed the arms and negociations of Buenos Ayres. Their character is represented as turbulent and daring; but they are warlike and enthusiastically attached to their Leader Artigas, who contends for Independence, both from the Government of Spain and from that of Buenos Ayres. No Government has ever been organised ~~in the territory of the Eastern Shore~~ ~~is now in operation~~. Owing to the dissentions between the Capital and the Provinces, the people of Peru have not taken a very active part in the revolution; and many Creoles were to be found in the Royal Armies. The influence of the Clergy contributed for sometime to this State of things. By the Spanish laws, the high Offices in the Convents were divided alternatively between the European and Creole Monks.

The Church being the only road to preferment, open to the Creoles, they crowded into it; but this alternative balanced their influence. The European Monks sent from Spain, were chosen from among the most Zealous and intelligent; and from the Pulpit, and in the Confessional Chair, successfully inculcated the doctrines of divine right, and of unqualified submission to the King; and above all, of implicit belief in the infallibility of the Clergy.

The Government of Buenos Ayres abolished the Alternativa, and banished some of the most intolerant of the European monks and Clergy.

The Creoles who have taken orders are [redacted] enthusiasts in favor of the revolution, and have been highly useful to that cause in the interiour Provinces. The influence of the Clergy in the city of Buenos Ayres appears to be at an end.

The condition of the People of Chile, is different from that of that of any other of the Spanish Colonies. The Country is for the most part in the hands of large proprietors, who let out their lands to Tenants, upon the Conditions of personal Service, and of the payment of a moderate rent in produce. As the Landlord may, at will, drive the Tenant for his farm, or augment the rent, according to the increased value, the farmers are deterred from improving their houses or land, and content themselves with raising what is necessary to pay the Landlord, and to subsist their families. Most of the large Estates are grazing farms, and the personal service of the Tenants consists principally in tending the Cattle. They are expected however at all times to be ready to obey the orders of their Landlord. Many of these Estates are entailed, and all of them encumbered with some legacy to the Church. More than half the property in Chile is in Mortmain. With few exceptions, the Clergy have been opposed to the Revolution. In each of the districts in Chile, there is a Regiment of militia Cavalry well mounted and armed with lances. These Regiments are under the Controul of the Colonel; and have in every instance followed him to the field, and fought for the cause he espoused.

Unfortunately, this Country has been divided into violent and

irreconcileable factions, by two powerful families: The Carreras and Larrains: both equally anxious to liberate their Country from the yoke of Spain; and both using every means in their power to obtain the Command.

In Lima, there has been no revolutionary movement. The Landed Estates are in the hands of large proprietors; and are cultivated by Slaves. They are fearful that any attempt to change the form of the Government would be attended by a loss of their property; and from the great number of Blacks and Mulattoes in this Viceroyalty the contest would probably terminate in the same manner as the Revolution of St. Domingo.

Buenos Ayres and Chile have been virtually independent for the last eight years; and the effect upon the Character and condition of the people has been highly beneficial. The human mind appears to have risen with elasticity from the weight of tyranny which had so long oppressed it; and they have improved rapidly in the Arts, in Knowledge, and in all the comforts and enjoyments of life. These are benefits which will not be surrendered without a desperate Struggle. Their forces are numerous, well organised and disciplined; and were the provinces united, they possess the means of defending themselves against the efforts of both Spain and Portugal. Their dissentions and ambition render them, in the opinion of some unworthy to be free. But, let us recollect that the virtues which adorn Society, and brighten the page of history, are the Offspring of Freedom and Science: and that where a people have been for centuries Kept in subjection by ignorance and Superstition, the first effort to burst their fetters will call into action the most violent of the human passions, and hurry men to commit the greatest excesses. The course of such a revolution will be too often, Stained by cruelties and crimes, and will almost inevitably terminate in a military despotism.

from

From the mild and intelligent character of the Creoles of South America, there is every reason to hope, that when emancipated from Spain, and relieved from their present difficulties, they will follow the bright example of the United States, and establish a Government of laws.

From the year 1580, when the City of Buenos Ayres was permanently settled, untill the year 1778, the history of these Countries comprizes only a Series of domestic vexations, from the despotism of Viceroys; of privations from Monopolies and commercial restrictions; and of Sufferings from Wars, foreign to their interests.

In the year 1778, the Indians of the Provinces of upper Peru, made an ineffectual attempt to shake off the Spanish yoke. They assembled in great force, and under the conduct of Tupac Amaru, a descendant of the Incas of Peru; plundered and destroyed a great many small towns. They twice laid Siege to the city of La Paz: but being without fire-arms, or ignorant of the use of them, they were repulsed, with great loss. After a hopeless contest of three years, they were defeated by the combined Armies of Buenos Ayres and Lima. Tupac Amaru, who had been proclaimed Inca, fell into the hands of the Conquerors, and together with the principal leaders of the revolt, was put to death, with the most cruel torments. This decisive action put an end to the insurrection of the Indians of Peru, and these Colonies remained tranquil untill the sudden invasion of the English in 1806.

Sir Home Popham, aware of the disposition of his Government to obtain a footing in the Spanish Colonies, and well informed of the defenceless State of Buenos Ayres, determined to make an attack upon that city. Instead of returning direct to England from the Cape of Good hope, he entered the river La Plata; and to the astonishment and consternation of the inhabitants, General Berresford landed a few miles below the city of Buenos Ayres, with two thousand men. The Viceroy Sobremonte, was panic Struck;

arms were distributed to the Militia, who ignorant of their use, ran out without order, to look at the Enemy, & General Berresford marched into the city, and took possession of the Citadel, without opposition. Dn Juan Martin Puyrredon, was the only Officer who at the head of a Company of Hussars harrassed the Enemy's March.

Sir Home Popham, returned to England, with the fleet, and General Berresford did every thing that could be expected from a brave and prudent Commander, to reconcile the Inhabitants, and to secure his conquest.

These Officers had calculated only the facility of surprising the Town; and had over looked the difficulty of keeping possession of an Enemy's Country, with a small force, at so great a distance from their resources. The Inhabitants were irreconcileably opposed to the British. The Chevalier de Liniers, a French Emigrant, in the service of Spain, passed over to the Eastern shore of the river, and excited the Inhabitants to arm; and the Viceroy, who had fled to Monte Video, assembled a small force; the Command of which was given to Liniers. He crossed the River and was joined by all the Inhabitants of Buenos Ayres, who could escape the vigilance of the British Sentinels.

The English Commander, being summoned to surrender the town, signified his determination to defend himself to the last extremity. General Liniers at the head of his irregular forces, immediately commenced the attack, and soon drove the garrison into the fort, where they were forced to capitulate.

The British General Officers were sent on their parole to Luxan, a small town twelve leagues from Buenos Ayres; and the rest of the Prisoners were marched

into the interior.

The emancipation of the Spanish Colonies, appears to have been a favourite project of Mr. Pitt. The Ex-Jesuit, Don Juan Pablo Viscardi y Guzman, a native of Arequipa, and an Enthousiast in favour of the liberty of America, had frequent conferences with that Minister; and in his answers to a Series of Enquiries, presented to him, gave a favorable view of the facility with which a Revolution might be effected in that Country. (He afterwards published in London an eloquent appeal to his Countrymen exhorting them to shake off the yoke of Spain.)

During the Administration of Mr. Adams, some proposals, on this subject, are said to have been made to our Government by the British Ministry, which were not acceded to. In 1797, a disposition to emancipate their Country, was manifested by the Inhabitants of the Caraccas, and was encouraged by General Picton's Proclamation, issued from the Island of Trinidad.

In 1801, Mr. Pitt's eagerness to open this Market to the Trade of Great Britain, induced him to aid the unthinky and ill-planed Expedition of Miranda, and it appeared at the trial of Sir Home Popham, that the Administration had countenanced the attack on Buenos Ayres. From the little opposition experienced by the British troops, on this Expedition; and from the facility with which Buenos-Ayres had been occupied, the Plan of emancipating these Colonies, appears to have been relinquished; and the Conquest of all the Spanish possessions in America, determined upon by the British Cabinet. This change of policy, may be inferred from comparing the Proclamation of Sir Thos. Picton, published at Trinidad, by order of Mr. Dundas Minister of his Britannic Majesty for foreign affairs, dated 26 of

June 1797; and the Instructions given in 1807 to Generals Whitelocke & Crawford. The former encourages the Inhabitants "to resist the oppressive authority of their Government", and declares that "they may be certain whenever they are in that disposition to receive "all the succurs to be expected from his Britannic Majesty; be it "with forces, or with arms, and ammunition, to any extent: with the "assurance that the views of his Britannic Majesty, go no further "than to secure to them their Independance; without pretending to "any Sovereignty over their Country; nor even to interfere in the pri= "vileges of the People; nor in their political, civil, or religious rights.

The Instructions of the right honorable Mr. Windham, Secretary at war, to Generals Whitelocke and Crawford were in a different spirit. The first was to proceed with the Forces under his Command to the River of Plate, and to take possession of Buenos Ayres, in the name and behalf of his Britannic Majesty. He is ordered not to introduce into the Government any alteration except in the appointment of Individuals whose change should be found necessary; nor to give any assurance that they shall not be given up to Spain at the conclusion of the present war.

General Crawford was to proceed to the River of La Plata, subject to the orders of General Whitelocke. Thence, as it was supposed that his force would not be required after the reduction of Buenos Ayres, he was directed to pass round Cape Horn & take possession of Valparaiso. He is ordered to discourage all hopes of any other change in the condition of these Countries than that of transferring their dominion to the Crown of

1505

Great Britain. The Generals on the Atlantic and Pacific are instructed to establish a line of military posts across the Continent. Their operations are limited strictly to these points, whatever prospects of easy Conquest may be held out from the defenceless State of Peru as an untimely movement might defeat the ulterior operations intended against those Countries.

These Instructions are to be found among the official documents annexed to the report of General Whitelocke's trial, published in 1808.

The following Extracts from General Whitelocke's defence, will shew the effect of this policy upon the Inhabitants of Buenos Ayres; and will give the opinion of the Commanders of that Expedition, with respect to their means of defence.

"It was known, that the people were divided into factions, and that various causes had rendered a large proportion of the Inhabitants ripe for "revolt; and great numbers were anxiously looking to a separation from their "mother Country, as the only means of availing themselves of the natural ad= "vantages of their local situation. It was therefore naturaly concluded, that people "who feel themselves oppressed rather than protected, as excluded by restrictions "founded upon a narrow and selfish policy from many commercial advantages, "would gladly change their government; and if it were once established in "a military post in the country, the above causes would make it easy to open "an extensive intercourse with the Inhabitants, and new channels for trade "and commerce. It was supposed that the character of this Country for "liberality and good conduct towards those who came under our dominion

+ Great Britain —

" ensured us the good wishes of the greater part, and the co-operation of
" a large proportion at least of the community. The public hopes and expecta=
" tions were raised to the highest pitch, and no suspicion existed, that it
" was possible for the greatest part of the population of South America,
" to entertain any other than a just feeling of attachment to our government,
" still less that it was possible that such a rooted antipathy could exist against
" us, as to justify the assertion (the truth of which has been proved to demons=
" tration) that we had not, when I arrived in South America, among the
" inhabitants, one single friend in the whole Country. Whether the opinion
" of the illustrious Statesman, now no more, who had so frequently turned his
" thoughts towards South America, had led him to contemplate the propriety
" of establishing military posts there, or the co-operating only with those
" who would gladly have followed the example of North America, and
" availed themselves of our assistance in establishing their Independence,
" I have no means of Knowing; but experience has shown that any other
" course of proceeding than that last mentioned, even if most successful, and
" almost in proportion to success, must have had the effect of placing us at
" a greater distance than ever from our ultimate objects, those of friendly
" intercourse and trade with the country."

" It is supposed in my instructions that after effecting my first
" object, I might safely part with a proportion of the force under my command,
" and retain only about eight thousand, which it was supposed must in
" any case, in addition to such troops as I might raise in the country,
" be amply sufficient to conquer and keep possession of the country; for
" such had been the misrepresentations to Government upon this subject,

Mr. Pitt

" that it was supposed, that a considerable force of this description might
" with safety be established. I was directed, as the Court will have
" observed, to use precaution as to the raising of this local force, and parti=
" cularly to take care that one third of each rank of officers should be British,
" and to select the description and classes out of which it was to be formed;
" but subject to these precautions it was conceived and so stated in my
" instructions, that much aid might be derived from this source towards
" securing his Majesty's possessions in that quarter, and avoiding, at
" the same time the necessity of too large a demand on the regular forces
" of this country, (I use the very words of the instructions:) such, as the
" Court will have seen, was the impression in this country on my appointment
" to the command, — what was the actual situation of the country on my
" arrival? "

" I naturally resorted to the very able and experienced officer who
" commanded at Monte Video, and who had diligently employed himself
" in acquiring every possible information upon this subject. I found that
" in the course of his operations against Monte Video, and after its capture,
" he had every reason to believe that the people were, without exception
" inimical to us; that previous to the surrender of Monte Video he could
" place no confidence in any information he received, and that after its capture,
" a sullen silence pervaded every rank. But he also found reason to believe,
" that however inimical they were to us, they were still more so to their
" present government, for upon reports arriving at Monte Video, which
" afterwards proved false, of the abolition of the Court of Audienza, the
" setting aside of the King's authority, and not hoisting the Spanish colours;
" those who had appeared hostile and inveterate, now pressed him to —
" advance a corps to Buenos Ayres, and assured him that if he would

" acknowledge their independance, and promise them the protection of
" the English government, the place would submit."

" The party in power were mostly all natives of Spain, in the principal offices of
" Church and State, and devoted to the Spanish government."

" The second party consisted of natives of the country, with some Spaniards
" settled in it. The disposition of the mother Country had made them most
" anxious to shake off the Spanish yoke, and though from their ignorance,
" their want of morals, and the barbarity of their disposition, they were
" totally unfit to govern themselves, they aimed at following the steps
" of the North Americans, and erecting an independent State. If we
" would promise them Independence, they would instantly revolt
" against the government, and join us with the great mass of
" the Inhabitants." f

" The next consideration was our giving up the footing we had in
" South America. On this subject many important considerations
" presented themselves. First, the situation of the Country, and the
" nature of our instructions. It was supposed from the information
" received by Government, that the Country would be conquered
" and kept in subjection by 8000 troops, which was considered a
" large force. But the information received by government upon this
" subject must have been founded in ignorance of the true state of the
" Country. I found on my arrival, that the resistance we should have
" to contend with far exceeded every calculation, not a single friend
" had we in the Country: On the contrary, every inhabitant was determined
" to exert his individual strength. Upon this subject I rely upon the experience
" of Sir Samuel Auchmuty, who stated that double the number of troops I
" have mentioned would be required to Conquer and keep
" possession of the Country"

On the return of the Viceroy Sobremonte from Monte Video, the People refused to receive him and wished to proclaim Liniers, that Officer appeased the tumult and reinstated Sobremonte in his Command. The Cabildo however deposed him as soon as they heard of the approach of another British Expedition; they then dispatched a deputation to Spain, in Consequence of which Sobremonte was recalled and Dn Santiago Liniers appointed Viceroy of de Plata.

The advanced guard of the Second Expedition, under the command of Sir Samuel Auchmuty landed on the Eastern Shore of the River of Plate, and laid Siege to Monte Video. Soon after the batteries were opened a breach was made, and the place taken by assault. The main body of the Expedition, under General Whitelocke, arrived in the River of Plate, on the 28th of January 1807; and after remaining at Monte Video until the arrival of Genl. Crawford's division, the British Army under Genl. Whitelocke proceeded up to Buenos Ayres, following the example of General Beresford, & landed his Troops below the Town, and experienced incredible difficulty in the transportation of his Artillery over the low swampy lands, which skirt the borders of the River.

The Country people were decidedly hostile, and none could be prevailed upon, to serve as Guides, or to procure Cattle for the Army. The Columns mistook the road, and the men were almost famished when they arrived before the Town. The want of proper accommodation for his Troops, and the dread of the rainy season, induced General Whitelocke to order an immediate attack. During the march of the British Troops from Ensenada, the Inhabitants of Buenos Ayres, recovered from their first panic; and dispositions were made to defend the Town, by cutting ditches across the principal Streets, placing the Militia on the flat roofs; and securing the entrance of the houses. Sir Samuel Auchmuty, who commanded one Column of attack, entered the upper part of the Town, and after a sanguinary conflict, drove the Spaniards from the Square, and took possession of the Plaza de Toros, a large circular building, where the Bull-fights

are held. This position commands the whole town. General Crawford led the Column which entered the lower part of the town. He met with little opposition, until he had advanced within a few hundred yards of the Fort. Suddenly a tremendous fire was opened upon the Column from the windows; Bombs and Grenades were showered down upon the ranks from the roofs of the houses; without Petards, scaling ladders, or even axes, The Troops, in vain endeavoured to break open the doors; and General Crawford, after losing half his force, without being able to make any effectual resistance, retreated into a large Church, where he defended himself for some time. The Church was exposed to the fire of the Fort; and he was, at length compelled to surrender at discretion. This decided the fate of the Expedition.

General Whitelocke, was informed of the capture of General Crawford's Column; and it was intimated to him, that if the attack continued, it would be impossible to protect the Prisoners from the rage of the people. Finding that the object of the Government could not be accomplished, he entered into a Treaty with Liniers; by which he agreed to evacuate Monte Video, and the territory of the River of La Plata; provided he was permitted to reimbark his Troops. These conditions were immediately conceded, and the British forces abandonned the shores of La Plata.

The Expedition under General Whitelocke, assisted by the disposition of the people, might have secured the Emancipation of these Colonies; but was not adequate to transfer their dominion to the Crown of

Great Britain.

The Revolution in Spain, changed the destination of a still more formidable Expedition, fitted out by Great Britain, and intended for the final Conquest of these Colonies.

Monsr. de Chasné, an Emissary of Napoleon, arrived in Buenos Ayres, in 1808. The Viceroy Liniers laid his dispatches before the Audiencia and the Cabildo, and Monsr. de Chasné was sent off. He afterwards fell into the hands of General Elio; and after experiencing the most cruel treatment, was sent back to Buenos Ayres; from whence, he was conveyed as a prisoner to Cadiz.

The Viceroy Liniers, issued about this time, a proclamation setting forth the State of the Peninsula; and exhorting the people to remain tranquil, and to follow the fortune of the Mother Country, whatever might be the issue of the present contest. The same language was held by the Regency of Spain. In an Address to the Americains, they say "It is not sufficient for you to be Spaniards, unless, whatever be the event of fortune, you also belong to Spain."

General Elio, who had been appointed Military Governor of Monte Video, had secretly excited the Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore, to revolt against the authority of the Viceroy. He, now, accused Liniers of Treason; refused to obey his orders; and formed a Junta in Monte Video, on the model of the provincial Governments in Spain. The arrival of Goyeneche who left Madrid as the Emissary of Murat; and afterwards accepted a Commission from the Junta of Seville, to proclaim Ferdinand the seventh in S. America contributed to agitate the public mind, and to encourage the spirit of revolution. The People were invited to take part in the dissentions of these Chiefs; and were called upon, for the first time, to think and to act. Goyeneche landed at Monte Video, where he approved the conduct of General Elio, and assured him that the

formation of a Junta would be highly acceptable to the Government of Spain. At Buenos Ayres, he applauded the loyalty of Liniers. In the Provinces through which he passed, on his way to Lima, he advised the establishment of Juntas. At Lima, he solicited and obtained the Command of the Army sent against the Junta of La Paz, and conducted the War against that Province, in the most sanguinary and impolitic manner.

Notwithstanding the Central Junta of Spain, had been recognised by Liniers and through his influence by the People of Buenos Ayres, that Government listened to the accusations of his Enemies, and superceded the only man, whose popular character, and services to the State, could have preserved this Colony from immediate revolt.

On the arrival of the new Viceroy Cisneros, Liniers was strongly solicited to retain the Command; the Military offered to support him; and hopes were entertained by the Patriots that the impolicy & injustice of the Spanish Government, would drive over to their party this able and popular leader. But Liniers, who appears to have acted throughout, with Chivalric honor, disappointed their hopes, by privately withdrawing himself from the solicitations of his friends, and the persecutions of his Enemies.

Cisneros did not possess the character or abilities necessary to repress the revolutionary spirit of the People of Buenos Ayres. The decree of free trade, extorted from this Viceroy, in 1809, increased their intercourse with foreigners; and the ignorance and superstition by which their allegiance had been hitherto secured, was fast wearing away, while the reconquest of the Capital and their successful defence

against the last formidable invasion, without any assistance from the Mother Country, gave them confidence in their Strength and resources.

Shortly after the news of the seizure of the Royal family reached the Brazils, Manifests were published by the Infant Don Pedro & by the Princess Charlotte, the Sister of Ferdinand the Seventh, and the Consort of the present King of Portugal, setting forth their right to the Spanish dominions in America. They were accompanied by letters addressed to the Viceroys and Governors of Provinces, and were circulated from Mexico to Buenos Ayres. The first scheme of the revolutionists, was formed upon these pretensions.

They proposed to deliver up the Country to the Princess Charlotte, expecting to retain the Administration in their own hands; and intending, at some more fortunate period, to assert their entire independance. They dispatched an Agent with their proposals to Rio de Janerio. The Princess accepted their offer, upon condition that they should admit a Portuguese Garrison into Buenos Ayres. As this measure would have defeated the plan of the Revolutionists, the negociation was dropped

The first revolutionary movement in the Viceroyalty of La Plata, was made in La Paz, and a Junta was formed in the Capital of that Intendancy, after the plan of the Provincial Juntas of Spain.

The Viceroy of Lima, resolved immediately to suppress this party, and dispatched Goyeneche, at the head of a large force into upper Peru. La Paz was taken, and the members of the Junta, with some of the principal Citizens, put to death; the first example of the exterminating fury with which Goyeneche conducted the war in upper Peru.

The failure of the plan to transfer the Government to the Princess Charlotta, obliged the leaders of the revolution to adopt more decisive measures. Their intentions were discovered, and it was expected, that every means would be used to frustrate them. Their danger obliged them to act with promptness and resolution; and the first attempt of the Viceroy to check them, was followed by an open declaration on their part. He was peremptorily ordered to resign his command, and after a short struggle, and a vain appeal to the people, was obliged to comply. Immediately upon his resignation, a meeting of the principal inhabitants, was held in the Town-hall of Buenos Ayres. In this assembly the Bishop, whose influence had hitherto been unbounded, ventured to oppose the current of Public opinion; but his authority was no longer sacred; and his assertion that the last Spaniard who remained in America, ought by right to govern the Country, excited such universal indignation, and drew upon him such a torrent of abuse, that he retired to his palace, confounded and dismayed.

This assembly still wishing to temporize, created a provisional Junta, and named the Ex-Viceroy, President; but the people, who had felt their power, refused all compromise, and on the 25th of May 1810, a Junta was elected from the Creoles of Buenos Ayres, and took possession of the command, amidst the universal acclamations of the people.

Every exertion was immediately made to extend the revolution to the interior provinces; and Troops were dispatched to favor the Patriots in Peru and Paraguay.

The Ex Viceroy and Fiscals endeavoured to counteract this plan

and maintained a correspondence with the Spanish authorities in those provinces. As soon as this conduct was known to the Government, they were summon'd to the Fort, and directly conveyed on board an English cutter, chartered to transport them to the Canaries. The Royal audience was at the same time dismissed, for contempt of the Junta; and the Cabildo, chiefly composed of Europeans, having in a secret meeting sworn allegiance to the Regency of Spain, the members were banished; and it was declared by law, that no European should hold any public Office under the Government of Buenos Ayres.

The Count de Liniers, who had retired to Cordova, assembled a small force, and determined to oppose the progress of the revolution in the interior. Before he had time to strenghten himself, his party was attacked and totally defeated by the Troops of Buenos Ayres; and he, with the Bishop, the Governor of Cordova, and four of the principal Officers, fell into the hands of the victors.

Either from the personal enmity of his Judges, or from fear of his popularity, and extensive influence, which made it equally dangerous at that early stage of their revolution, to banish or to imprison him, it was resolved in the Junta, that Liniers and his accomplices should be put to death, except the Bishop whose sacred character protected him. They were met on the road to the Capital by a Military Commission, and were shot, after being confessed by the Bishop, who was forced to witness the execution of his friends.

The Expedition to upper Peru, was conducted by a Commission +

+ Castelli was the Member selected for this important command. He was one of the earliest & most distinguished leaders of the revolution.

from the Junta of Buenos Ayres. The Indians were emancipated from the most oppressive services; the Auxiliary Army, hailed by these unfortunate people, and by the Creoles, as their deliverers, soon occupied the whole territory of the Viceroyalty; and the Towns were invited to elect deputies to represent them in the Congress, about to be held at the Capital.

In the meantime, the dissentions natural to a Government composed of one numerous body, broke out, and produced those factions, which have since divided their Councils, and distracted the State. They originated in the personal animosities of the President of the Junta*, and of the Secretary of State†, a man of violent temper, ardent in his love of liberty, and too conscious of his superior abilities to brook controul. As the Secretaries had a right to deliberate and vote in the Junta, he was enabled to oppose the President, in all his views, and obtained a decree depriving him of all distinction, except that of his Presidency when sitting in Junta. On the arrival of the deputies from the Provinces, they were admitted into the provisional Government, and the spirit of party was augmented by this accession of numbers. As they had been received contrary to the opinion of the Secretary, who contended, that it defeated the intention of their election, which had been to form a deliberative body, the President found no difficulty to procure the Secretary's banishment; he was sent on a mission to England, and died on his passage.

The members of the opposition unable to resist the President's party in the Junta, determined to establish a Club in the City; and by uniting the most factious of the Military and Citizens, controul the measures

* Don Cornelio Saavedra † Moreno

of Government. Aware of the probable effects of this combination against 9 166
him, the President had recourse to the most violent and unjustifiable measures to destroy it. On the morning of the 5th of April 1811, three regiments devoted to his interest, were drawn up in the principal Square of the City. The Corporations were assembled, and a petition was presented to them from two or three hundred peasants, who, in the name of the people demanded the banishment of the members & Officers most inimical to the President. The Corporation awed by the military, reluctantly complied; the obnoxious persons were banished, the Club abolished, and a number of Citizens thrown into prison.

This impolitic measure was the commencement of those violent changes, which have so frequently retarded the progress of the Revolution. The leaders of the Army of Peru which was now encamped on the frontiers of the Vicetoyalty of Lima, declared against the Revolution, of the 5th of April, and threatened to turn their Arms against its authors. It was thought a necessary measure of precaution on the part of the Junta, to introduce discord among the Chiefs; and their dissentions finally occasioned the entire defeat of that Army, at the battle of Hualqui, where the Royalists and patriots mutually accused each other of breaking an armistice. The news of this disaster, which well nigh proved the ruin of their cause, was received with joy by the reigning party in Buenos Ayres, who only saw in it the destruction of a formidable rival.

The Junta of Buenos Ayres had neglected to occupy the important place of Monte Video, at the commencement of the Revolution, and the Spanish marine

which, with equal oversight, had been permitted to leave Buenos Ayres rendevoused there, and commenced hostilities against the Junta; they harrassed the commerce on the Rivers, and blockaded the ports of Buenos Ayres.

On the arrival of General Elio with the appointment of Captain General and Viceroy of these Provinces, he withdrew the blockade, and made an attempt to get possession of the Command, either as Viceroy or as President of the Junta.

His proposals were treated with contempt by the Government of Buenos Ayres; and he, shortly after, dispatched a small Squadron to the Paranà, in order to destroy some Vessels belonging to Buenos Ayres, which were stationed there for the protection of the Trade. This was effected, and the blockade renewed. The British Admiral did not consider the authority of the Viceroy sufficient to establish a legal blockade, and came down in person from Rio de Janeiro, to insist upon the inviolability of the British flag. After some negociations with General Elio, he gave orders to the Commander on this Station to protect the entrance of British Vessels into all the ports of the River of Plate. The blockade became therefore of no effect: and the Squadron was employed in ravaging the Coast; but returned from time to time to bombard the City. During these attacks, the Europeans in Buenos Ayres were harrassed and mortified. The unmarried were banished; and those, who remained were subjected to the most vexatious and humiliating regulations.

In the midst of these transactions, the inhabitants of the

inhabitants of the Eastern shore of the River of La Plata, had been excited 157
to revolt against the European authorities in Monte-Video. And as
General Elio was particularly disliked by them, this was easily
effected; they rose in mass; defeated the Royalistes at Piedras,
and drove them within the walls of the Town.

A small regular force was immediately dispatched to aid their
operations, and that town was blockaded by land.

The Expedition against Paraguay, had failed of its object, and
had served only to irritate the inhabitants of that Province; and although
they shortly afterwards expelled their European Magistrates; and
established a provisional Junta. They have constantly refused all
connection with Buenos Ayres. General Elio, alarmed at the spirit
manifested by the people of the Eastern shore, and pressed by a besieging
army, sent deputies to Buenos Ayres, to solicit peace; offering to
retire to Spain, and stipulating that the town of Monte Video should
send a deputy to the Congress of Buenos Ayres, provided it was supposed to remain independent of the
Junta. The news of the Revolution in Paraguay which was received
at the same time, prevented the Government of Buenos Ayres from
acceding to this proposal.

Ignorant of the intentions of the Chiefs of that Province, and
presuming that they would unite in the common cause, they insisted upon
the unconditional surrender of Monte Video. General Elio then
applied for assistance to the Court of Brazils; that Cabinet, in
hopes to realise their favorite project, and to obtain possession of Monte

Video, immediately granted his request, and 2500 men were ordered to pass the frontiers. In consequence of this measure the situation of Buenos Ayres became alarming. From the state of their discipline, the defeat at Hualqui, proved a total dispersion of that Army; and the forces of Lima successively occupied La Paz, Potosi and Cochabamba.

The Portuguese Troops advanced rapidly to the relief of Monte Video, and great discontent reigned in the Capital. In this state of affairs it was thought advisable, that the President should proceed to Peru, in order to collect their scattered forces, and by his presence restore the confidence of the Inhabitants of the Provinces, not yet occupied by the enemy. He consented to this arrangement, and appointed to the Command of the Garrison, during his absence, those men who had served him in the Revolution of the fifth of April, and whose attachment and fidility he felt secure. He had scarcely left the Capital before a Town-meeting was assembled, which deposed him. They then named an Executive of three†, and declared the assembly of Deputies, a deliberative body. In their eagerness to change, they neglected to secure themselves against the abuse of power.

They entrusted to the Executive the right of enacting their own Laws, and ~~permitted~~ them to frame a Constitution for their own Government. The legislative assembly proved an intollerable restraint upon an Executive, furnished with such powers, and a pretext was soon found to dissolve that body.

The first act of the new Government of Buenos Ayres had been to conclude a treaty with General Elio, by which it was agreed

† Chiclana, Sarratea, and Passo were the members chosen upon this occasion. The Secretaries of this Junta, were Rivadavia & Perez

13

on the one part, that the Troops should be withdrawn from the siege of Monte Video; and that that place, including the Eastern side of the River of Plate should remain under the Spanish authorities; on the other part, that the Trade of Buenos Ayres should not be molested; and that the Portuguese forces should retire to their own frontier. On the part of Buenos Ayres, the Conditions of this treaty were faithfully executed; and the territory of the Eastern shore was immediately evacuated by their troops. General Elio, who had discovered the intention of the Court of Brazils, had been induced to conclude this treaty, from fear of so dangerous an Ally. But the Commander of the Portuguese army, who had been made a party in the treaty, without being consulted, declared that he could not act, untill he received instructions from his Court; and proceded to fortify himself in Maldonado. Having failed in this attempt to obtain possession of Monte Video, without which it was impossible to retain any part of the Eastern shore, the Portuguese Court sent an Agent to Buenos Ayres, and concluded an Armistice with that Government; in consequence of which, their troops evacuated the territory of La Plata

The people of the Eastern shore, who dreaded the vengeance of the Royalists, to which they had been shamefully abandoned, deserted their houses, drove off their Cattle, and followed Artigas, their favorite leader, to the other side of the Uraguay.

Shortly after the return of the army from Monte Video, an unsuccessful attempt was made by the Regiment of Patricians to effect

a Revolution, and to reestablish their former Colonel the First Presedent of the Junta. Although abandoned in the moment of execution by the Officers who had excited the revolt, they were not reduced untill after a bloody conflict.

As soon as it was known in Spain that General Elio had concluded a treaty with Buenos Ayres, he was recalled; and his Successor General Vigodet, who arrived with reinforcements, recommenced hostilities against the Revolutionary Government. The Command of the army of Buenos Ayres was entrusted to a member of the Executive, who crossed the River at Santa Fe, and again invested Monte Video. A Government so constituted, as that of Buenos Ayres, without restrictions, and without responsibility, could not long command the confidence of the people, or exist in harmony.

The Citizens were oppressed, and the rulers were entirely taken up with their own private animosities and disputes. These dissentions, as usual, soon extended their effects to the Armies. Before Monte Video, the Inhabitants of the Eastern shore separated their forces, from those of Buenos Ayres; and the latter caballed against their Commander in chief; dismissed him; and appointed one of their own choice. The Europeans saw in these disorders, a favorable opportunity to effect a counter revolution. A plan was formed to obtain the watch word by surprising the patroles; to seize on the Barracks, and favored by a descent from the Squadron of Monte Video, get possession of the City.

This Conspiracy was discovered on the eve of its execution, and thirty of the principal Conspirators were tried and executed.

In

+ Dr. Manuel Sarratea

In October 1812, Deputies arrived from the interior provinces to form a Congress at Buenos Ayres; but differences arising between them and the Executive, the Assembly was dissolved on their first Session.

The remains of the Army of Peru, had retired before the victorious troops of Lima, untill the want of means to continue their retreat, forced them to make a Stand at Tucuman. On the 24th September 1812, an obstinate engagement took place, which from the active co-operation of the Inhabitants of Tucuman, ended in the total defeat of the Royalists. Owing to the dissentions of the Government, the army of Peru was left without the means of advancing, and could not profit by their success. The discontent became general; and the party opposed to the Government seized the opportunity to effect a Revolution.

The Military, so often the instrument of faction, again lent their aid, and a new Executive was appointed, by a Cabildo Abierto or town meeting.

[redacted] Succours were at length sent to the Army of Peru, which enabled General Belgrano to advance, and attack the Royalists at Salta. In this action fought in February 1813, the Spaniards were defeated, with great loss; and Belgrano following up his Victory took Salta by assault, and captured General Tristan, with the remains of the Royal army. The prisoners were released on their parole, which they immediately violated, and were again incorporated into the Army of Goyeneche. This General had Commanded the Royal army in Peru, since the memorable invasion of La Paz; but being forced to evacuate the territory of Buenos Ayres, by the approach of the

victorious army of Belgrano, he was recalled by the Viceroy of Lima.

The Vicerovalty of La Plata, was again free from Enemies; and the deputies from the provinces and towns, once more assembled at Buenos Ayres. They assumed the title of the Sovereign assembly, and confered that of supreme Executive power upon the former superiour Government, which was composed of three persons+. They declared the sole right of making laws to be vested in the assembly; and the Executive to be responsible to them for its acts.

One of the first decrees of the Sovereign assembly, manumitted the Offspring Islan- after february 1813, and emancipated all Slaves that might be brought into the territory of La Plata, after that period. The Slave holders were called upon for every third Slave which were enrolled in the army of the republic. On this occasion many of the Inhabitants voluntarily manumitted their Slaves, upon condition of their serving during the War; and two Regiments, called Liberti were formed of them; they are officered by whites. ~~Buenos Ayres~~ = ~~Commissioners~~ Commissioners were sent by the Assembly into upper Peru, to examine into and report on the State of those Provinces and of the Army.

Towards the close of the year 1813, the Arms of Buenos Ayres met with serious reverses. The General of their forces, in upper Peru was induced by false intelligence to attack the Army of Lima, although advantageous= ly posted at Vilcapugio, and was defeated with the loss of all his artillery. Being pursued by the Enemy, and eager to repair his losses he risqued a second Engagement at Ayuma, under the most unfavorable

+ Peña, Perez, and Alvarez Junta

17/160.

circumstances in which he was again defeated, and forced to retire below Salta with the remnant of his army.

The Garison of Monte Video, had received supplies and reinforcements from Spain; and altho' they had been defeated in a sortie against the besieging army, it was apprehended that a junction might be effected at Santa Fe', of the Victorious army of Lima, with the disposable force in Monte Video. The Royal Squadron having the Command of the River of La Plata, rendered this movement very praticable.

The party in power seized this opportunity to strengthen the Government. They represented to the Assembly that an Executive of three persons could not exert the energy and dispatch called for, by the present perilous situation of the State; and proposed to vest the authority in one person.

This proposal was warmly discussed in the Assembly; but the military declaring in favor of the change, a Supreme Director was appointed. The assembly was prorogued during the pleasure of the Director; and a Council of Seven, called the permanent council of the Soverign assembly, were chosen to assist him.

The General who had commanded in Peru, was superseded, and orders given to his Successor to collect the scattered remains of that army, and to fortify himself in Tucuman; whilst they determined to direct their whole force against Monte Video. Aware of the importance attached by Great Britain to the trade of these Colonies, and expecting to derive

great advantages from opposing the Commercial spirit of that nation to the jealous Colonial policy of Spain, they sent an Agent to London; and were willing, at that time, to secure the favorable mediation of the English Court, by granting any privileges. They are said to have instructed their Agent to declare that Buenos Ayres would rather be Governed by a foreign Prince, than submit unconditionally to Spain.

The same policy induced them to yield to the solicitations of the English Minister at Rio de Janeiro, who was desirous of adjusting the differences between Buenos Ayres and Monte Video; and had expressed a wish that the former should acknowledge the Regency of Spain, accept the Constitution, and send Deputies to the Cortes. Commissioners were sent with proposals to Monte Video: but the Viceroy who now contemplated the approaching fall of Buenos Ayres, and considered this measure as a proof of their weakness, refused to receive or treat with them. This result had been foreseen by the Government, and great exertions had been made to fit out a Squadron, which might give them the command of the River. Some stout Merchant Vessels had been purchased, which were armed from the batteries of Buenos Ayres and Ensenada, and manned by foreigners; and this fleet immediately on the return of the Commissioners appeared off Monte Video. This measure did not excite much alarm in that Place; it was supposed that armed merchant men would prove an easy conquest to national Ships; and a Squadron was immediately dispatched to attack and destroy them. The

+ Don Manuel Sarratea

The event did not justify this opinion of their superiority. To their astonishment and dismay (the Opinion of Monte Video, who witnessed the action) the national Squadron was entirely defeated; two only escaped into port, and the remainder fell into the hands of the Patriots.

The Viceroy finding himself pressed by superior forces, both by land and water now condescended to solicit a peace, which he had but a few days before rejected with contempt; but the Government of Buenos Ayres retaliated his conduct towards them, and refused to receive his Commissioners, or to open his dispatches. He was soon after, reduced to the necessity of treating with the General of the besieging army.* It was agreed that the Government of Buenos Ayres should acknowledge the Regency, and send deputies to Spain. The town of Monte Video, was to be given up, the garrison to be sent to Spain; two thousand men to march out with their arms, field pieces and ammunition; and to be encamped untill the conditions were carried into execution. Whilst this treaty was pending, disputes arose between the troops of the garrison, and the armed Citizens, who were violently opposed to the Capitulation.

The Viceroy finding it impossible to suppress these commotions, which threatened the distruction of all parties, ordered the gates to be thrown open, and admitted the army of Buenos Ayres. The two thousand men were permitted to march out with the honors of war; and it was at first supposed that the articles of the Capitulation would be adhered to. They were soon undeceived. The General of the besieging army, published a proclamation, in which he declared that having entered

* Don Carlos Alvear.

the town before the Capitulation had been signed, by either party, exposed to a ruse de guerre and to the risk of being attacked, he considered Monte Video to have been surrendered at discretion to the Arms of Buenos Ayres. The Viceroy was furnished with a Vessel to carry him to Spain; but the Garrison consisting of Six thousand men, were sent prisoners of war to Buenos Ayres. The persons and property of the inhabitants were respected.

To the honor of Buenos Ayres they have used their Victories with moderation. Notwithstanding the irritation which exists between the Royalists and the Patriots and that the former have frequently disgraced themselves by massacres in cold blood, and by the barbarous treatment of their prisoners, the troops of Buenos Ayres have never sullied their arms by these sanguinary measures, not even in retaliation.

Monte Video had been defended with the utmost obstinacy for nearly four years; and not less than seven thousand persons perished during the Siege, principally by famine and disease. The Victors acquired Seven thousand Stand of arms; five hundred pieces of Artillery, and a profusion of war like Stores. An amicable arrangement was made with the Inhabitants of the Eastern Shore; and the troops were withdrawn in order to reinforce the Army of Peru.

It had been determined to destroy the fortifications of Monte Video, which are formidable, from the place being situated on a very narrow peninsula. It may be considered the Key of the River of La Plata, and consequently of the whole Viceroyalty; and once in possession of an Enemy, particularly of a maritime power, they could not expect to wrest it from them; nor could they defend it long against a regular force.

Moreover, in the present unsettled State of the Country, it would prove a powerful Engine of faction, and the Military Governor of Monte Video might dictate to the Government of Buenos Ayres, or involve the Country in a civil war. The Artillery and Stores were to have been moved to Tucuman, to which point the armies might retreat, in the event of a formidable and irresistable invasion, obliging them to abandon the Coast.

The Limenean Army, which had advanced as far as Salta, on receiving intelligence of the fall of Monte Video, retired precipitately upon Potosi. The Commander of that Army led on by the hope of forming a junction with the troops of Monte Video, and of investing Buenos Ayres, in two instances, abandoned the strong positions of Oruro & Potosi, which secured to them the possession of Peru; and advanced towards the plains of Tucuman. The first had weackened his Army by leaving garrisons in the towns, and particularly in Oruro de Cochabamba, the Capital of the most fertile and populous of the interiwar Provinces. The present Commander, to avoid this fault of his predecessor, to which he attributed his defeat in Tucuman, left his rear and flank unprotected, and exposed to the attacks of the Indians and Cavalry of Cochabamba, which harrassed his retreat.

& They neglected this precautionary measure, and this important fortress is in the hands of the Portuguese.

The Revolution of Chile, partook, in some degree of the 1. 162
distinctions which mark the character of that people.

The Creoles of that Kingdom saw and rejoiced in the Success of Buenos Ayres. They wished to follow what they considered a noble example, but were restrained by their natural timidity. When the Captain General, on some slight denunciation, arrested three of the principal Inhabitants of Santiago Ovalle Rojas and Vera

Ovalle and Rojas were sent to Lima; but Vera, a native of Santa Fe, in the Vicero yalty of Buenos Ayres feigned himself sick, and from the Castle of Valparaiso, where he was confined, incited the Chilians to reclaim their Countrymen, and to protest against this act of oppression, which, he represented, as the prelude to a general perse= cution of the Creoles. He excited their fears to such a degree, that they gathered courage from despair, and addressed a Strong remonstrance to the Captain General, which alarmed him, and induced him to recall those Gentlemen, whom he had accused of treasonable practices, and of forming plans to separate the Colonies from the Mother Country

These seeds of weakness, on the one part, and of firmness on the other, decided the Revolution. Encouraged by their success, the people declared themselves openly. In the hopes of freedom, even family feuds were forgotten. All the Creoles of distinction in Santiago united, deposed the Captain General, and instituted a provisional Government, which acknowledged & acted in the name of the Authorities of Spain. They soon, however assumed a bolder tone; and a Congress was assembled, which governed in the name and behalf of Ferdinand the 7th

On the 1st of April 1811, the day appointed for the Election of the Members for the Capital, an attempt was made by some Europeans,

to restore the ancient Government. An Engagement took place in the principal Square, which ended in the total defeat of the Royalists. The Captain General and the Royal Audience were implicated in this conspiracy; and in consequence were banished the Kingdom, and retired to Lima.

In the Congress, party spirit soon mingled with all their debates. The provinces of Conception, complained that they were not fairly represented, and the affairs of the Government were neglected in the animosities and mutual accusations of the members.

The Command of the artillery was in the hands of an European, who was supposed to be a partizan of the Princess Charlotte of Brazil. The Creoles dreaded the power and influence of this man; and the three brothers Carreras resolved to make an effort to wrest from him this important Command. The eldest, who was a Major in the Regiment of Grenadiers, had distinguished himself on the first of April; and was a great favorite with the Soldiery.

They chose the hour of the Siesta for the attack; and at the head of sixty Grenadiers surprized the Artillery-Barracks and seized the Commander.

After this action, some reform was made in the Representation, and the Congress commenced business by inviting all who were inimical to the present order of things, to retire from the Kingdom. They rendered the Clergy inimical to the cause of independence,

by forbidding them to receive any money from their Parishioners, for 164
the performance of their Clerical duties; assigning a moderate Salary
to the Curates in lieu of fees. They passed an act manumitting the
future offspring of Slaves; and declared that all Slaves brought into
Chile, after that period, should receive their freedom, after a
residence of six months. They opened the ports to Commerce, and
published Commercial regulations.

The places of Alcades (members of the Cabildo) were by the
laws of Spain, sold to the highest bidder. They were now made Elective.
The first Junta, or Executive of Chile was composed of seven members.

The struggle for power between the family of the Carreras, and
that of the Larrains, commenced at this period. After the successfull
attack on the Artillery barracks, the Eldest brother was promoted to the
Colonelcy of the Grenadiers; and the youngest to that of the Artillery.
From the Barracks of these Officers, a remonstrance was addressed
to the Congress, which induced that body to depose the Junta of seven,
and to appoint an Executive of five. José Miguel Carrera entered
into the Government on this occasion.

This Junta did not long endure the Control of a Legislative
body; and the Congress was dissolved on the 2.d december 1811.
Some of the Members of the Executive resigned on this occasion; and
a new Junta was formed, consisting of three persons. J. M. Carrera
J. Portales. J. N. Cerda

The

The members from the Southern provinces protested loudly against this flagrant breach of the privilege of the people; and upon their arrival in Conception, excited their Constituents to oppose the Executive of Santiago, and to take up Arms in defence of their rights.

Forces were collected on both sides, and were marched to the banks of the River Maule, which separates Santiago from Conception. Both parties, however, preferred negociation and intrigue to blows. They retired without coming to action; and Conception, being destitute of resources was shortly after forced to submit to the Capital.

Some attempt having been made by the Colonel of Grenadiers to awe the Executive into his measures, José Miguel Carrera, resigned his Office in the Junta, and his father was nominated to supply his place.

The brothers were soon after reconciled. A Constitution was framed and offered to the people for their acceptance; and having been signed by the Military, the Cabildo and all the respectable Inhabitants was adopted by the Government. The father resigned, and J. M. Carrera was reinstated in the Junta. A Senate was elected according to a provision of the Constitution, and assembled in November 1812.

The first Junta, established in Chile, had been acknowledged by the Regency; and the supply of grain was so necessary to the Vicetoyalty

between these Countries
of Lima that the intercourse had not been interrupted by the late changes 165
of Government. But the dissentions which existed between the Provinces of
Santiago and Conception, enabled the Vicroy to carry into execution a
plan for the conquest of the latter.

The garrison of Valdivia and of San Carlos de Chiloe were
landed in the bay of San Vicente; and thence marched to Talcahuano;
That post was delivered up to them by some European Officers in the service
of Chile; and the Town of Conception was afterwards taken without opposition.
The royal forces were joined by several Regiments of Militia Cavalry; and
they soon occupied the whole of the province.

The greatest exertions were made in Santiago to repel this
invasion; the three Brothers Carreras put themselves at the head of
the forces; and the Armies met on the banks of the Maule.

A body of five hundred men crossed the broad and rapid river
Maule, in the night, and surprized the Camp of the Royalists, at
Yerbas Buenas. This action deterred them from crossing the River in
front of such an Enemy; and being baffled in an attempt to turn the
flank of the patriot army, they retired towards Conception. The Chilians
crossed the river, and overtook the royal forces at San Carlos.
An obstinate engagement ensued, in which both parties claimed the Victory.
The royal Army crossed the river Nuble, at the dawn of day, and retired
to Chillan: Jm. Carrera leaving his brother at the head of the
Main body, moved with a detachment towards Conception. The garrison
of that place retreated to Talcahuano; and that post was immediately

attacked and taken by assault. The army then laid siege to Chillan, which the Royalists had strongly fortified. After spending a month before this place, the continued rains of the Winter obliged the Patriots to retire.

The Executive Junta established themselves, shortly after, at Talca. From thence, they issued a decree new modelling the Army, deprived Carrera of the Command, and appointed Dn. Bernardo Ohiggins, General in chief. The three Brothers immediately withdrew from the army. The two youngest were taken prisoners by the Royalists, as they were returning to Santiago, and were conducted to Chillan. The Royal forces now marched towards Santiago, crossed the Maule, and occupied Talca.

The Chilians followed them by rapid Marches, and crossing the Maule lower down the River, took a position to protect the Capital.

This State of things, called for a more energetic Government, and on the return of the Executive to Santiago the Junta was dissolved, and a Supreme Director appointed.

The Royal forces continued to advance, when Captain Hillyar the Commander of the British Squadron in the pacific proferred his mediation. As it appeared that he was authorised by the Viceroy of Lima, his proposal was accepted by both parties.

It was agreed that the Royal forces should evacuate the territory of Chile within two months, and that the Government of Chile should acknowledge the Regency of Cortes; and send deputies to Spain to learn the decision of the Mother Country, to which they

agreed to submit. This treaty was signed on the 5th. may 1814, and Hostages exchanged by the Contracting parties.

Both parties were dissatisfied with this arrangement. The Carreras who had been excluded from the general Amnesty, and mutual liberation of prisoners agreed upon by the treaty, escaped from their confinement at Chillan. The youngest Brother, Dr. Luis, upon his return to Santiago, was seized and imprisoned by the Government; and Dr. J. M. Carrera, after escaping the same fate, entered the Capital at the head of some of his partizans. The Troops received him with enthusiasm; the Supreme Director was deposed, and a Junta of three established.

General Chiggins, determined to enforce the execution of the treaty, and marched towards the Capital. The armies met on the plains of Maipo; and an action was fought, which determined in favor of the forces of the Junta. The continuance of this civil war, was prevented by the unexpected news of the arrival of reinforcements from Lima, and the refusal of the Viceroy to ratify the treaty. This intelligence united the armies of Chile, and they marched against the common Enemy. The Royalists had advanced to the River Cachapoal which separates the Province of Rancagua, from San fernando.

General Chiggins, fortified himself at Rancagua; but was surprised by the Royalists, and his forces totally routed. This decisive action obliged the patriots to evacuate the territory of Chile. They passed the Cordilleras, and took refuge in the Province of Mendoza.

In this State of affairs, intelligence of the restoration of Ferdinand the seventh reached South America. The Governments of Buenos Ayres, notwithstanding they had changed the national flag and cockade, and had coined

money with the arms of the Republic, had always issued their decrees in the name of Ferdinand the seventh. It was resolved therefore to send a deputy to Spain, to proffer their allegiance, on conditions which would secure them in the free exercise and enjoyment of their rights; and hopes were entertained that the present administration would adopt a conciliatory policy towards the Colonies, in opposition to the violent measures of the Regency. These hopes were disappointed; and their Agent returned to Buenos Ayres, without effecting his object.

The capture of Monte Video had put into their hands a valuable armament, and abundance of warlike Stores; and the Ships which had contributed so materially to their success, were now employed to harass the Commerce of Spain. Some of their Cruisers doubled Cape Horn while others proceeded to intercept the return of Spanish Ships off the port of Cadiz.

Don Carlos Alvear, who had Commanded the forces of Buenos Ayres, at the Capitulation of Monte Video, ambitious to conclude the war in Peru, induced the Supreme Director to appoint him General in chief of that army; and left Buenos Ayres at the head of a large reinforcement. On the road, he was met by the unpleasant intelligence, that the Officers and troops refused to receive him as their Commander; and he returned with his forces to Buenos Ayres. The Supreme Director was glad to resign his title to one, who had, for some time exercised the Chief authority. Alvear was in consequence proclaimed Supreme Director in Buenos Ayres; but not being acknowledged in the Provinces, or by the army of Peru, the greatest confusion prevailed in the State.

after

After the Conquest of Monte Video, the Government of Buenos Ayres concluded a treaty with Artigas; but upon their afterwards sending him a Commission, he returned it, telling them that he derived his authority from the free election of the people of the eastern shore. That the Inhabitants of that Province were willing to be the allies; but would never submit to be the Vassals of Buenos Ayres.

The troops which were sent to reduce him to subjection, not only failed in their object, but were forced to abandon Monte Video. Artigas after driving the forces of Buenos Ayres from the Eastern shore, crossed the Parana, and took possession of Santa Fé. Two thousand men were dispatched to recover this important post; but the Officers came to an understanding with Artigas, and turned their arms against the Supreme Director. Under these circumstances and threatened by a revolt of the Citizens, Alvear withdrew his forces from Buenos Ayres, and encamped at a short distance from the City. A Town-meeting was immediately assembled, which deposed both the Supreme Director, and the Sovereign Assembly; and vested the authority in the Cabildo. The City was placed in a State of defence; but Alvear, after some threats, resigned his Command, and with his family took refuge on board a British Frigate, then stationed in the river.

The Cabildo then appointed a Junta of observation; published a new Constitution, and elected Rondeau the General of the Army of Peru, Supreme Director. This Officer, who had formerly refused to resign his Command to Alvear, preferred remaining at the head of the army; and a Supreme Director, pro tem. was nominated, untill he should think proper to assume the Command. Another attempt

was made to dispossess Artigas of Santa Fé; but the troops of Buenos Ayres were defeated with great loss. General Pezuela, who had fortified himself in Oruro, having received reinforcements from Lima, attacked the army of Peru, on the 22d. of November 1815, at Sipe-Sipe & after an obstinate Engagement, the Patriots were forced to retire.

The Army of Buenos Ayres retreated to Salta; and the royal forces remained in possession of all the upper Provinces of Peru.

The people were displeased with the Administration of the Supreme Director's substitute, and assembling tumultuosly, they forced him to resign the Command. Another was appointed, who was soon after treated in the same manner; and the Government was then placed in the hands of a Committee of safety.

The Congress, which had been convoked according to a provision in the last Estatuto, assembled in June 1816, at Tucuman. They nominated Dn. Juan Martin Puyrredon Supreme Director, who immediately repaired to Buenos Ayres, and assumed the reins of Government. Don Manuel Belgrano, who, since the battle of Vilcapugio, had remained in retirement, resumed the Command of the Army of Peru. The troops received with enthousiam the General who had so often led them to Victory, who had generously distributed to the Widows and Orphans of those soldiers who had fallen in the battle of Salta, the money voted to him by the Government of Buenos Ayres, as a reward for that distinguished Service; and who had preserved his political integrity amid the changes of party, and the intrigues of faction; and had manifested no other ambition than that of ending his life

and fortune to the great cause in which he was engaged.

An army was assembled at Mendoza to protect that frontier against the Royal Army, which was in possession of Chile; ~~and the~~ Command of this force entrusted to San Martin, who had distinguished himself by repulsing, with a small Corps of Cavalry, a detachment of the Royal forces at San Lorenzo, on the Paraná.

On the 9th of July 1816, the Congress published their formal declaration of Independance. In december following, the Portuguese troops entered the territory of the Eastern Shore, which is claimed by that Government.

The invading army, after occupying the towns on the frontiers, took possession of Maldonado, and advanced upon Monte-Video. This important military post was surrendered to them without opposition.

Artigas, with the desultory forces under his Command, opposed in vain the progress of the invaders; but still continued to harass them by every means in his power.

Recd the 13.

Columbia 169
5th. November 1818.

Sir

In my hurry to forward the Information called for by the President, I neglected to insert the supposed amount of the Population of Buenos Ayres and Chile. The former was estimated at little over two millions; and the latter was found to contain 750.000 Souls by the Census taken 1791. From the strong motives of Concealment, as the Census is taken for the purpose of proportioning the taxes according to the Population of each District, the Population of Chile cannot be estimated at less than one Million. The Capital Santiago de Chile contains 40.000 Inhabitants—

You will confer a favor upon me by Laying these Estimates inserted in the Geographical description of those Countries.

I. R. Poinsett

To the Hon.ble
J. Q. Adams
Secretary of State
Washington